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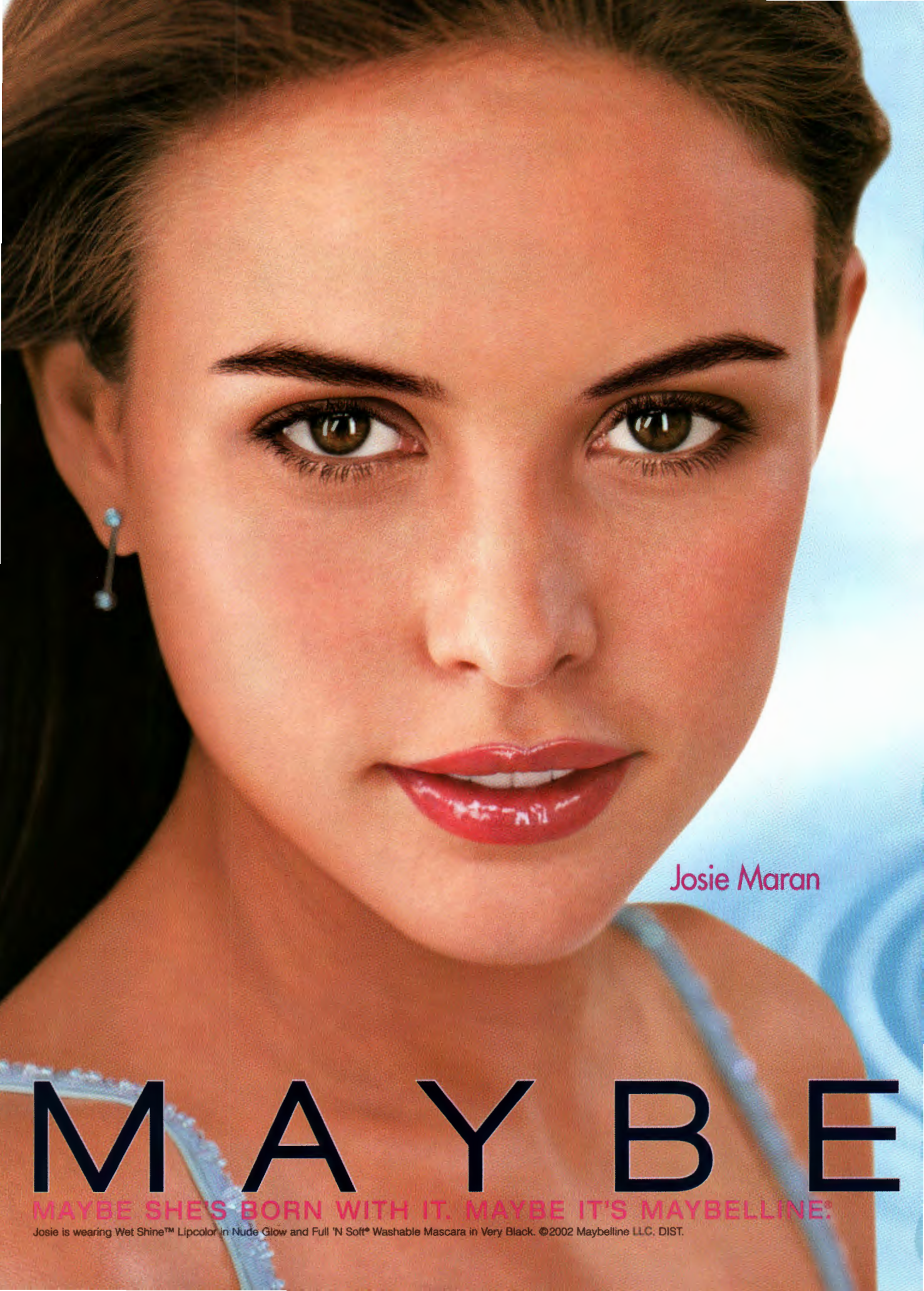
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COSMO girl!

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1 CG! will win a hot pink snakeskin cell phone case from Poppie. Go to cosmogirl.com/winit or page 130 for more details.

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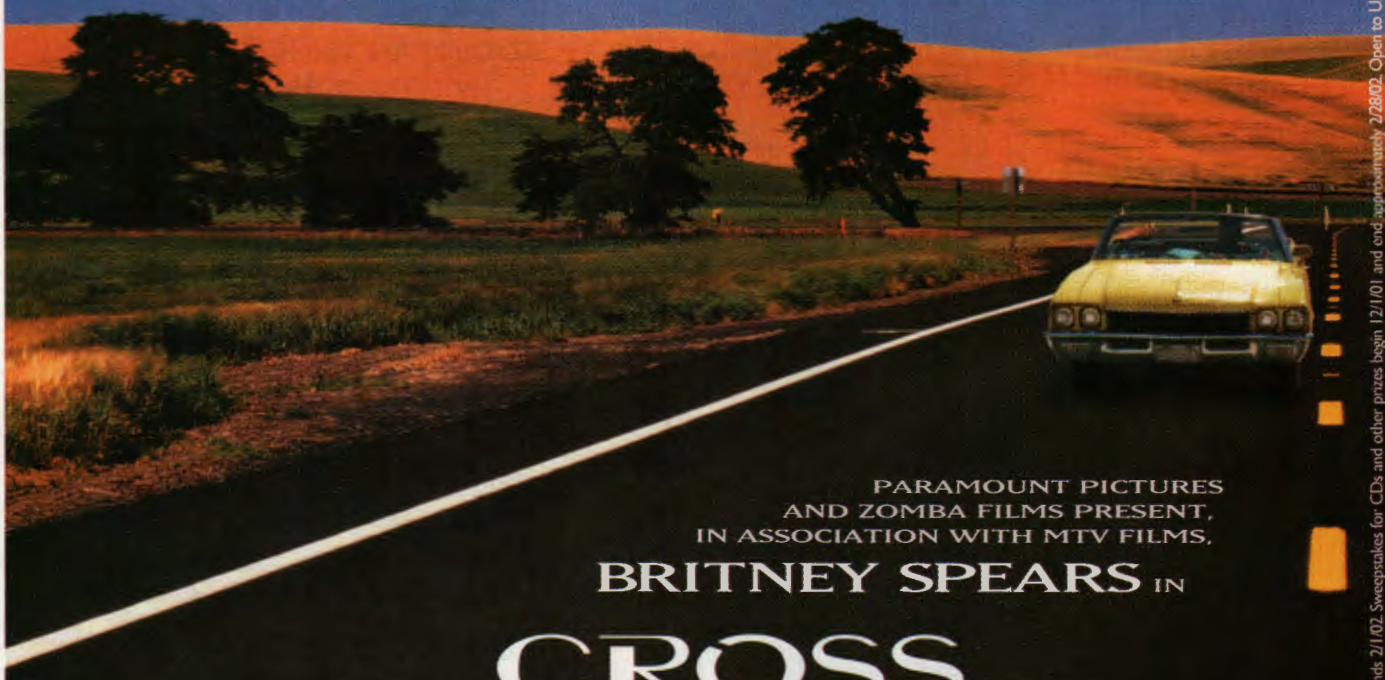

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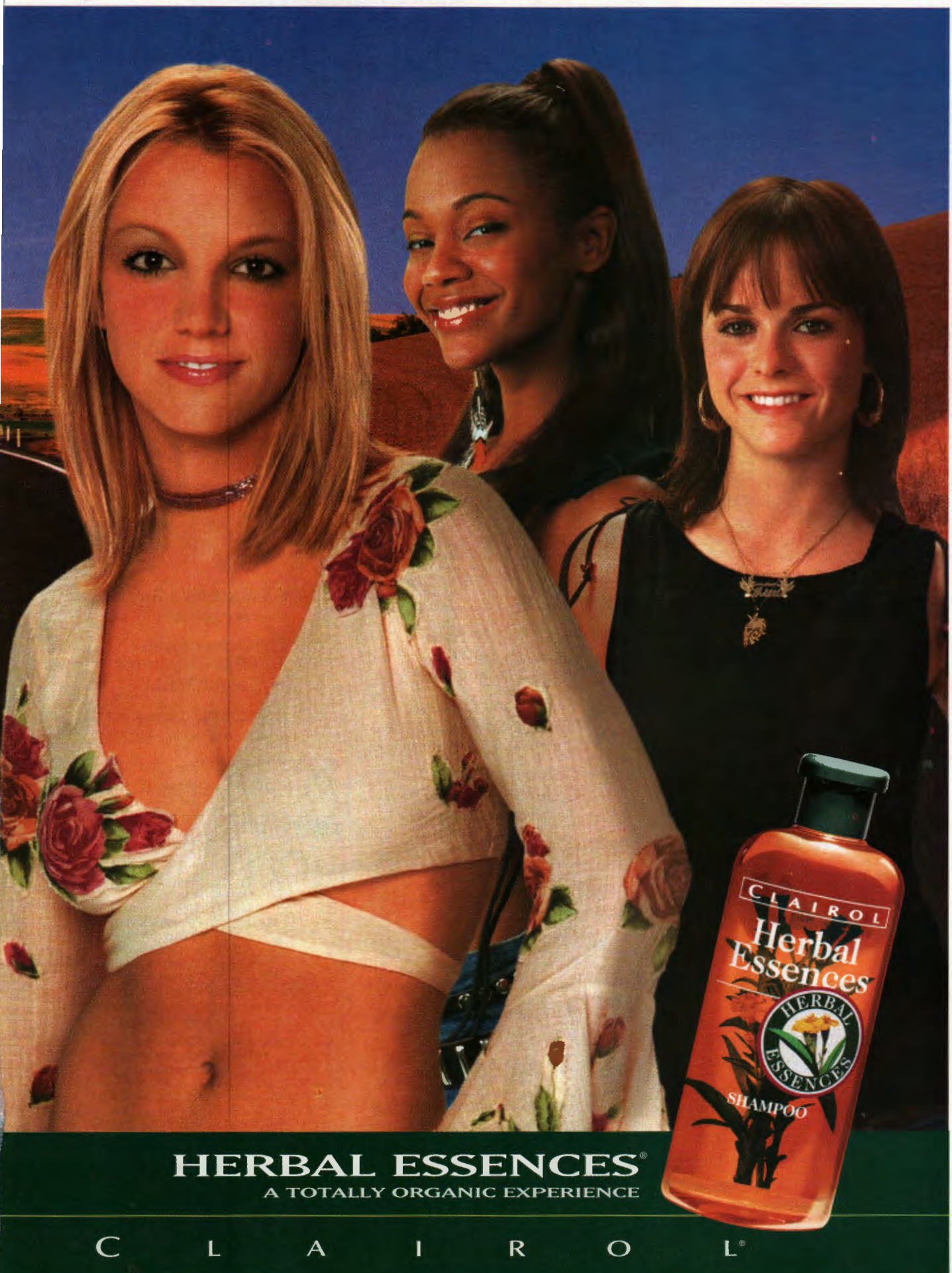

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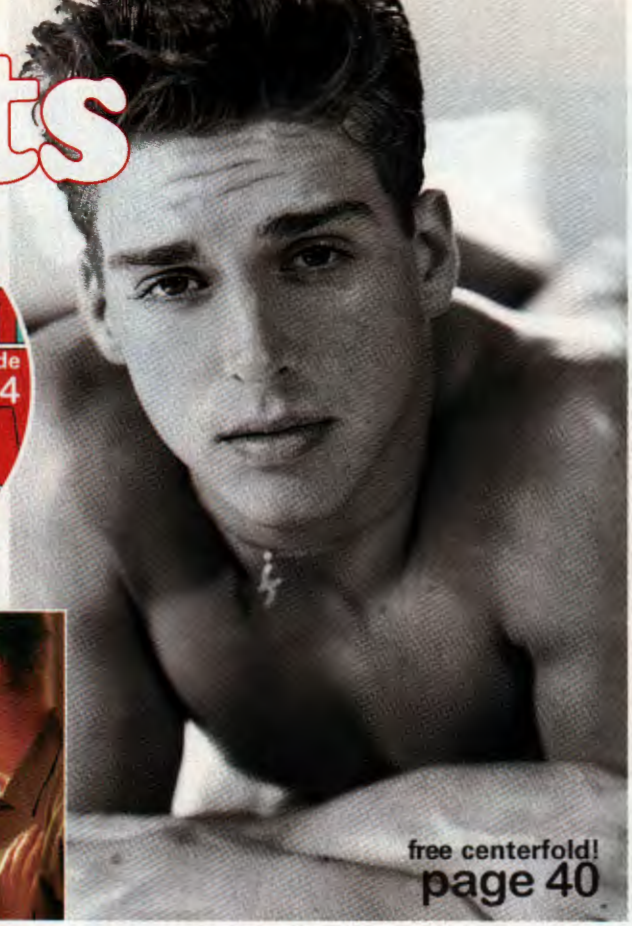

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ON THE COVER

'N Sync

Photograph by **Mark Liddell**; Fashion Director: **Jacqueline Azria-Palombo**; Stylist: **Hayley Hill**; Hair: **Valeria Angelino**; Makeup: **Elan Bangiorno** for Celestine L.A.

This issue's cover logo lipstick is Estée Lauder Sumptuous Lipstick in Opulent Red.

On the guys! J.C.: Tee by cK Calvin Klein Jeans, $18, at Macy's; Cargo pants by The Original I. Goldberg, $32, www.igoco.com. Leather belt by GUESS? Belts, $36, 800-39-GUESS. **Justin:** Tank top his own. Jeans by Diesel, $149, 877-4D-DIESEL. Dog tags by Uncle Sam's Army Navy Outfitters, $8 per set, 877-USA-SAMS. Leather belt, cK Calvin Klein Jeans, $30, at Macy's. **Chris:** Long sleeve thermal by The Original I. Goldberg, $13, www.igoco.com. 501 jeans by Levi's, $48, 800-USA-LEVI. **Lance:** Tee by The Original I. Goldberg, $9, www.igoco.com. **Joey:** Tee by Uncle Sam's Army Navy Outfitters, $10, 877-USA-SAMS. Dog tags by Uncle Sam's Army Navy Outfitters, $8 per set, 877-USA-SAMS.

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So much fun, it should be illegal!

Survival of the Sexiest

Think Blink-182's Mark Hoppus is hot? He's battling stars like Lance Bass and A.J. McLean to be on the cover of our Sexiest Guys in the World issue! *Your* votes decide who wins. **cosmogirl.com/survivalofthesexiest**

Fashion Addict

Want to see your name on the Fashion Addict high-score board? Play now! **cosmogirl.com/fashionaddict**

Daily Horoscopes

Don't start your day without your daily CG! 'scope. **cosmogirl.com/astrologic**

win it!

Free Phone, Anyone?

Ring, ring, ring! Opportunity calling! Here's your chance to get this adorable **Sprint PCS cell phone** for *free!* What do you have to do? So glad you asked! When you send a CG! e-card (this month it's 'N Sync—yummy!) to five of your friends, you're *automatically* entered in the sweepstakes. It's as easy as apple pie! Five very lucky girls will score one of these babies. But you've gotta be in it to win it! Enter now! **cosmogirl.com**

'n sync's got the phone

Warning: Could cause extreme excitability in 'N Sync fans. Record their sexy greeting on your answering machine and let them take your messages. Yowza! **cosmogirl.com/answeringservice**

Heath Ledger

Heath's career is in jeopardy because he ran off to Paris with your best friend! *Say what?!?* You can make your friend the star of this CG! Scandal! She'll die laughing! **cosmogirl.com/scandal**

win it!

Win It!

If Santa didn't bring you all of the goodies you *really* wanted, log on to our site after December 28 and you can enter to score all the *Win It!* loot in this issue. **cosmogirl.com/winit**

What's Your Story?

We want you to be in CosmoGIRL! Tell us what's on your mind and your comments could be printed in the magazine! Your friends will be so *jealous.* **cosmogirl.com/whatsyourstory**

CG! Newsletter

Come join the CG! community! We'll send you e-mails with hot news from our world! **cosmogirl.com/newsletter**

'N SYNC: MARK LIDDELL. WHAT'S YOUR STORY / ILLUSTRATION: KIRSTEN ULVE. LEDGER: STEPHEN OXENBURY/CORBIS OUTLINE. HOPPUS: EDIE BASKIN/CORBIS OUTLINE.

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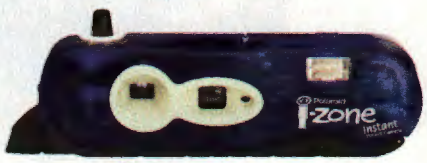

It's So CosmoGIRL! to Give Back!

(Rules Continued)

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COSMO girl!

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hey!

Remember—February 14 is just another day.

Valentine's Day. Don't you want to grab the person who came up with the idea and just give him a nasty wedgie or something? The **expectations** it creates! You might think it's easy for me to "blah, blah" about how annoying Valentine's Day is when I've got my pumpkin (**Ari**). But trust me: I've had plenty *(pleeeeeeeenty)* of moments when I've considered murdering Cupid. Okay, not just murdering him, but torturing him, too.

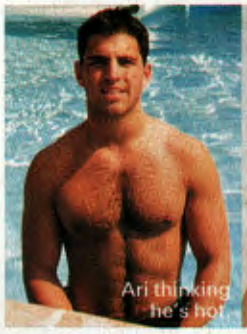
I might have just convinced you otherwise, but I'm actually a **romantic.** I was *born* naming my future kids, you know what I mean? And I've always been a dreamer. I dreamed of a beautiful, clean house by the beach. A husband who would be smart, gorgeous, obsessed with me. And with every new **crush,** I'd instantly plug him into my fantasy. So of course, I'd totally fall in love. Mind you, *I'd* fall in love. Him? Nada.

"Trust me: I've had plenty of moments when I've considered murdering Cupid."

Now, after my Mr. Wrong-yet-I-dated-him-all-throughout-college-because-I-thought-I'd-never-find-someone-better **boyfriend** and I broke up, I was single for about a year. But gosh, I had fun! Watching all the movies I loved. Doing crazy **dances** in the mirror whenever the mood hit me. Eating cotton candy for, like, **every** meal (I'm addicted to the blue kind). Those were the **golden** years, sister—I was my own Valentine all year round. (Try it—it's like getting a **soul** massage or something. You can suddenly breathe easy.)

Then one July night, I was out with a bunch of friends and this **Tom Cruise** look-alike comes up to me and I was *not* having it. Listen—after you get into a habit of treating yourself like you're a goddess, the first sign of someone who could potentially mess with that? **Red alert**—stay away! I prefer to keep my heart in one piece, thank you very much, Mr. Cutey Patootie. I just figured Ari was another one of those soul suckers. But he persisted, *and* treated me like major royalty.

But you know the moment I was sold? I was in the bathroom finishing my makeup because Ari was early for a date, and when I came out, he was talking to my stuffed lion. (P.S. I'm not ashamed to say that I was a 23-year-old woman with stuffed animals.) He was cradling him and had named him **Junior.** As in, Ari Junior. As in, *our baby!* I was like, *Stop the music!* What? **Romance?** A dreamer? Six years later, we're still together. But anyway, as special as Ari is to me, I know for a fact that before he met me, he wasn't so amazing to other girls he'd dated. What made me different? I personally think it was that period of self-love I was going through when we met. I was confident and frankly thought *way* too highly of myself to let some old John or Anthony (hint! hint!) **mess** with my heart. So *this* Valentine's Day, draw yourself up a yummy-smelling bath, put on a little Dave Matthews, and treat *yourself* like the most valuable thing on the Earth. Because, CosmoGIRL!, you *are.* Oh, and by the way—out of solidarity, I'm going to do the same thing.



Ari thinking he's hot

Ari and Ari Junior.

Hear that, Ari? Well listen, I talked your ear off about *my* guy situation. You know you can *always* do the same with me. I'm here 24/7 as always at **atoosa@cosmogirl.com**.

♥ Atoosa

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speakup!

Your raves and rants about our November issue.

garbage (wo)man

Thank you for having Shirley Manson from Garbage on the cover. It's so refreshing to see a real girl who knows what life is really like! Shirley is a role model for every girl out there, and it's totally awesome to see something as huge as CosmoGIRL! recognize that! Keep being the best teen magazine there is!

—Emily, 15, Parker, CO

hit single

I just finished reading "Living Single." There hasn't been an article that has made me want to shout, *"Hell, yeah!"* in a long time! I hope every girl who reads this realizes that we don't *need* a guy in our lives—we just *want* one. We can do whatever we want. All we need is our strength, our courage, our passion, and our determination—and I know that every girl out there has those qualities. We all can shine. Don't ever let a guy block your light.

—Alyssa, 15, Sewell, NJ

punk u

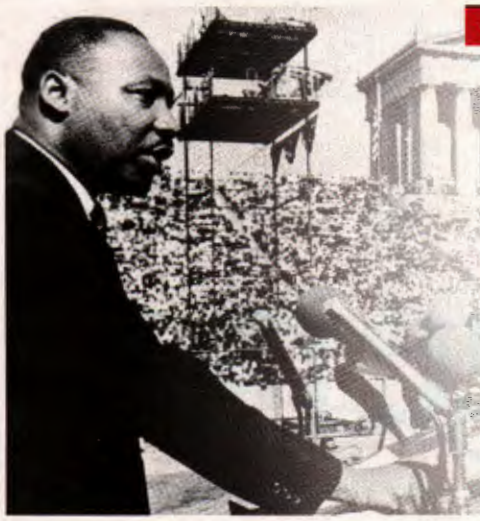
I was upset with what Kay said about punks and posers in Speak Up! I love Nirvana, Green Day, and old-school Everclear, but because I shop at J.Crew and the Gap, she says I'm not a true fan. If I have eclectic tastes and occasionally "dress punk," it doesn't mean I'm a poser! Please respect my weird combo of tastes as I respect yours.

—Kate, 17, Jasper, GA

baby talk

I feel Jessica is wrong in the teen mom story. Her story is what mothers want their daughters to hear so they will abstain from sex. When I was pregnant, my friends showered me with love. She surrounded herself with people who never really cared about her. When I was pregnant, I planned things on my own. I never expected anyone to help me out, so that if they did, it would be a bonus. Even though I'm a teen mom, my life is the same: happy.

—Tiffany, 16, Indianapolis, IN



do-gooder

Live the Dream

Up for a challenge? Good! Martin Luther King III and actor Andrew Shue want you to honor the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by taking part in the annual Do Something Kindness & Justice Challenge. For the two weeks following Martin Luther King Jr. Day (January 21), perform "acts of kindness" (like inviting someone who seems lonely to a movie or dinner) and "acts of justice" (standing up for someone who's getting bullied at school). Find out how to make the Kindness & Justice Challenge an official school-wide program by logging on to dosomething.org.

wicca trials

While I do respect that everyone has a right to their own opinion, I resented your recent editorial about Wicca. As a Christian, it is my belief that witchcraft is an evil thing and I was not at all happy that it was promoted in your magazine. Everyone has a right to worship as they please, but I didn't like the broad generalizations and off-base comparisons Dana made in her article. Wicca is *not* like my religion and spells are *not* like prayers. I don't discriminate against *you,* so stop generalizing about *me.*

—Amanda, 15, Livonia, MI

CosmoGIRL! of the month

Meredith Henry, 18, of Colorado Springs, CO, kicks butt—literally. As an instructor for Kidpower, Teenpower, Fullpower International, she teaches kids (including developmentally disabled teens) self-defense skills. "Working with disabled teens is especially rewarding," she says. "We teach them how to stop unwanted touching and how to avoid strangers. They gain so much confidence—their spirit is amazing."

I am a Wiccan and it is about time the world knows who we really are. I'm sick of hiding it from my teachers and friends. What we do isn't bad. We don't put curses on people or practice black magic. Stop judging us if you don't even know the truth. We don't judge black people or Islamic people. I thought we were all equal. Didn't the terrorist attacks teach you anything?

—Chloe, 16, Boston, MA

final farewell

I'm so crazy about David from His Diary that I buy two of every issue—one to pin on my wall and one to read. When I read this was his last diary, I seriously cried. I understand if you have to bring in a new guy, but if you keep David, I will be so happy.

—Kelli, 16, Onalaska, WA

EDITOR'S NOTE: *We'll miss David, too. But check out Boris, our cute new His Diary guy, on page 36! Let us know what you think!*

KING: DALMAS/SIPA PRESS.

CG! LINK Go to cosmogirl.com/speakup to tell us what you think about this issue.

COSMO girl! february

black history month

"Don't compromise yourself. You're all you've got." –JANIS JOPLIN

mon | tues | wed | thurs | sat | sun

Wondering what to do with your time? We've packed your February full of fun things to do and lots of chances to win cool stuff. See cosmogirl.com/winit or page 130 for details.

4 win it! 10 readers will win a sexy pair of Mudd Jeans.

5 The March issue of CosmoGIRL! hits newsstands today!

6 win it! 30 will win blush, moisturizer, lip gloss, and lipstick from Burt's Bees.

7 ASHTON KUTCHER'S 24TH B-DAY

8 *Rollerball*, starring Chris Klein, opens.

9 10 girls will win a Cyber Frog Phone from Couch. win it!

10 win it! 30 will win a cool, funky striped shirt from Old Navy.

11 KELLY ROWLAND'S 21ST B-DAY

12 CHRISTINA RICCI'S 22ND B-DAY

13

14 VALENTINE'S DAY Who needs a guy? Give *yourself* candy, hot stuff!

15 win it! 25 divas will win a bottle of Philip B. hair shine.

16 win it! 25 lucky ladies will win 2 nail lacquers from GOSH!

18

20 Couch is giving 10 readers a Mini Spy Camera Key Chain. win it!

21 win it! 25 girls will win 6 Back to Basics hair products.

22 DREW BARRYMORE'S 27TH B-DAY

25 win it! 50 will win a can of Giorgio Beverly Hills hair fragrance.

27 Watch the Grammys tonight at 8 p.m. EST on CBS.

23 win it! 15 CosmoGIRL!s will score a wide pink glitter belt from Fantas-Eyes.

24

win it! Blue Q is giving 25 girls a gilded Queen clutch makeup bag!

2 GROUNDHOG DAY If the little guy sees his shadow, we'll have 6 more weeks of winter!

3 CG! HAPPY 14TH B-DAY TO CG! READER REBECCA FLEISCHER!

FOR PHOTO CREDITS, SEE PAGE 130.

Happy birthday to...you! Want to see your picture on this Calendar? We do! Send your photo with all your 411 on the back (name, address, phone number, age, and birth date) to CosmoGIRL! Birthday Girl, P.O. Box 1746, Sandusky, OH 44870.

ouch!

Humiliating stories that will make your hair curl!

you glow, girl!

"My boyfriend asked me to come over to his house to help decorate for this party he was having later that night. I put on my strapless top and made sure to put on plenty of deodorant. When I got there he turned on a black light, put on a few CDs, and we started dancing. When I lifted up my arms, the deodorant started glowing in the dark. He noticed it, and almost *died* laughing."

no cutting

"I was at an amusement park and I was waiting in this two-hour-long line for a new roller coaster. Suddenly, I was hit with a wave of really bad gas, but there was no way I was getting out of line! I decided to just let it go, hoping that no one would notice. I thought I had committed the crime successfully, until my little brother yelled, '*Eww,* Leia! You farted!' My face turned bright red and everyone was staring. Even worse, when I tried to deny it, my brother shouted, 'I *know* it was you! I was standing right *behind* you when you poofed it out!' From now on, I use the bathroom *before* I get in line."

poker face

"I stayed overnight at my friend's house and her parents went to a party. We got really bored, so we started playing strip poker with her brother and his hot friend. We were just getting down to the nitty-gritty when a car pulled up in the driveway—her parents were home early! I had on nothing but panties, so I put a pillow over my chest. My friend had on the same so we tried to make a run for it. She ran straight into her room, but when I came out of her brother's room, her parents had *just* opened the front door. I froze and dropped the pillow! Then I ran into her room so embarrassed! I called my mom and told her I was sick and wanted to come home. My friend got grounded for a month, but my parents still don't know!"

type-oh (no!)

"I was talking online to my best guy friend, who is so close to me that he's practically my brother. (Okay, so he's *also* my biggest crush!) Well, we were just talking about school stuff, and after I answered all his questions, he said thanks like always. I was going to just do my usual response of 'Anything for my bro.' But as I was typing, I was also talking to my friend (who was over at my house) about her boyfriend, so I mixed up the words and wrote (and sent!) 'Anything for my boyfriend!!!' I can't even *look* at him now without blushing."

pocket protector

"One day, I was at school and my crush asked me why my pocket was so bulky. I told him it was a wad of money, but it really was a pad. Well, then he reached into my pocket as a joke to try and steal my money and he pulled out my pad in front of all his friends! I was so humiliated!"

screen saver

"I was with some friends at this really cool club and was out on the dance floor doing my thing. Suddenly I had a really bad wedgie. Since it was kind of dark and no one could see me, I just decided to pick the wedge. As I started to pick (and it was *really* up my butt!) I suddenly realized that everyone was laughing. Talk about bad timing! I looked up at this big screen on the wall, and it had me picking my *wedgie!* It turns out that people from the club

ILLUSTRATION: CHRIS BELLAMY; SMITH; GLOBE PHOTOS.

go around videotaping people's butts and of course they had to get *mine* on camera. I was totally embarrassed!"

third eye deaf

"My best friend goes to the University of Miami, and they always have concerts on campus. We saw Third Eye Blind, and it was great. After the concert we went to get something to eat, and were still a little bit deaf from standing right by the speakers. We started talking about these hot baseball players who were at the concert too. Of course, we turned around and they were sitting right behind us. Since we were practically *screaming*, I know they heard everything!"

up 'n' coming

"One day I was walking home with my friends and I had a pad on just in case I started my period. As we were walking, I felt something on my stomach. Come to find out my pad had creeped up! I had to reach in and get it without my friends (or anyone else) seeing me, and throw it in the garbage can we were about to pass! I almost *died!*"

message in a battle

"My boyfriend and I had been dating for about three months, and I was sending him little love letter greetings every day. One Sunday, I sent a really sentimental one that told him how I felt and everything. On Monday, he didn't call me like usual. Then I asked him on Tuesday if everything was alright. He said yes, just that his phone line was down. I thought maybe he didn't get the e-greeting that I sent him, so I sent him another one. Except this one was the song 'Hanging by a Moment' by Lifehouse. We had this really bad fight on Wednesday. On Thursday, I broke up with him. Needless to say his e-mail started working Thursday night. The next day at school all his friends were telling me to get a life. It made no sense. Then it all clicked. His friends thought I was an insane psycho stalker or something. I had the *worst* time trying to explain *that* one to everybody."

"My brother said, 'I know it was you. I was standing right behind you when you poofed it out!'"

freak dancing

"I had been waiting all night at the Homecoming dance for a swing song to play. Finally, 'Jump, Jive, an' Wail' came on. I was having so much fun dancing with my friend—until we crossed our arms over each other's shoulders and threw one back. I smacked the guy I had liked for two months in the face! I hit him so hard his glasses fell off and bent. I kept trying to tell him how sorry I was while my friend was cracking up (she knew I liked him). But don't worry, CG!, the story has a happy ending—we danced together before the night was over!"

caught red-handed

"I was in a store when I really needed to change my tampon. I couldn't see buying a whole box when I had tons at home, so I went in the aisle, opened a box, and took one. Not knowing that they had cameras, I went into the bathroom to change it. When I came out there were the managers of the store *waiting* for me! In front of all the other customers they said, 'We know you stole the tampon.' It was terrible!"

march madness

"I drive to school every day. Well, one day I had a tennis match that was pretty far away, so I just left my car in the middle of the school parking lot. I didn't think anything of it, but when we arrived back at school much later that night, I discovered that the entire marching band was practicing *around* my car. It turns out that they practice in the parking lot at night when everyone is gone, and they had had to practice marching for about an hour and a half while my car was in the middle of their formation! Plus, the school drill team was practicing with the band, so there were probably over 250 students in the parking lot. Of course, the band director yelled at me in front of *all* of them!"

head banger

"I was talking to the hottest guy in school and he asked me to sit down next to him at the lunch table. He dropped a piece of paper and I bent over to pick it up—but when I came back up my head banged right into his *crotch!*"

eye of the tiger

"I was at a friend's house and she has an extremely hot brother. (He really *is* almost perfect.) Well, when I was at her house, I tried so hard to not look at him! It was all good and stuff until the next day in class my friend told me that her brother told her I was staring at him like an animal! It was one of the most embarrassing things that's happened to me in my entire life."

confession corner

KERR SMITH (*Dawson's Creek*)

"I'd say the most embarrassing thing that has ever happened to me was when I was on *As the World Turns* and I got a kissing note from the director. [My co-star Jordana Brewster and I] were told to 'tone it down'—that it was a bit too much. They told us this in front of everyone in the studio! It was a bit embarrassing."

CG! LINK Share *your* most humiliating moments at cosmogirl.com/ouch.

roxy watches

CHARMED

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Smile! You're on CG! camera.

Shop Girl!

Winona Ryder must have gotten a really great deal at the Yves Saint Laurent boutique in Los Angeles—spend $1,000 or more, and get a free *man!* Jackpot!

BIG PICTURES USA.

CG! LINK Your best friend ran away with Heath Ledger! *Huh?!* Create a celebrity scandal at cosmogirl.com/scandal.

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Davidoff
Cool Water
WOMAN
WOMAN
EAU DE
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psssst... CELEBS

Lil' Kim
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Jessica Simpson
Sweet cheeks

Mena Suvari
American Booty

Jennifer Lopez
J. Whoa!

j.lo's legacy

By always putting her best booty forward, she's officially started a celeb trend!

Destiny's Child
Butts, butts, butts

Kid Rock
Bawitdabutt

Gwen Stefani
Hindsight is 20/20

Will Ferrell
Butt of jokes

KIM: GARY MARSHALL/SHOOTING STAR; SIMPSON: STARTRAKS; SUVARI: PAUL FENTON/SHOOTING STAR; LOPEZ: UCT/LONDON FEATURES; DESTINY'S CHILD: JEN LOWRY-ULOW/LFI; ROCK: SONIA MOSKOWITZ/GLOBE PHOTOS; STEFANI: GARY MARSHALL/SHOOTING STAR; FERRELL: JAMES SMEAL/GALELLA.

CG!

RISING STAR

Justin Long

Age: 23
Hometown: Fairfield, CT
His sign: Gemini
Claim to fame: He plays the angst-ridden Warren Cheswick on NBC's *Ed.*
Next big thing: Making out with Britney Spears in her new movie, *Crossroads.* "Even though we were professional, filming it was still awkward! Our scenes were so *intimate.*"
Who knew? His real-life mom, Wendy, plays his TV mom on *Ed.*
His big break: "In 1999, I took a semester off from Vassar College to try acting, and I auditioned for a TV pilot called *Stuckeyville.* The show wasn't picked up, but the sister of the casting agent was casting for the movie *Galaxy Quest*—and I got the part! A year later, *Stuckeyville* was retooled into *Ed,* and I got hired for that."
Watch for: The movie *Happy Campers,* this spring. "I play a dorky camp counselor who leads a revolt because he's not getting any sex!"

TATIANA; GROOMING: MARALYN S.; STYLIST: NIKKI GOLAN.

psssst... MOVIES & TV

The real must-see movies & TV. By Lauren Brown

reel love

No matter *who* your date is on the 14th, we know just what you should rent!

your date: a crush

AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN
Starring Debra Winger and Richard Gere
You'll melt over the men in uniform, he'll love the testosterone-drenched fights.
Most romantic moment: The over-the-top grand finale (we won't spoil it!).

your date: yourself

THE WAY WE WERE
Starring Barbra Streisand and Robert Redford
Katie (Streisand) goes on an emotional journey with Hubbell (Redford)—and learns a lot about herself.
Most romantic moment: When Babs sings "The Way We Were," you'll cry!

your date: boyfriend

LOVE STORY
Starring Ali MacGraw and Ryan O'Neal
Jennifer (MacGraw) and Oliver (O'Neal) will inspire you!
Most romantic moment: When Oliver says that love means never having to say you're sorry (it *will* prevent future fights).

your date: friends

BOYS ON THE SIDE
Starring Drew Barrymore, Mary-Louise Parker, and Whoopi Goldberg
Three girls with nothing in common bond on a memorable road trip together.
Most romantic moment: Jane (Goldberg) confessing her love to Robin (Parker).

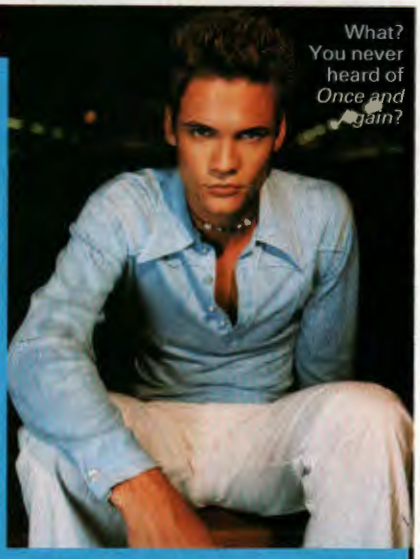
your date: your pet

THE TRUTH ABOUT CATS AND DOGS
Starring Janeane Garofalo and Ben Chaplin
Abby (Garofalo), a radio show host, can talk to animals—but guys are different!
Most romantic moment: Abby getting dragged by a dog (watch to understand!).

CG! catches up with...

Shane West

Shane dishes on his movie *A Walk to Remember*, love, and Mandy Moore!



What? You never heard of *Once and Again*?

Q In the movie, your characters are soul mates—what are you looking for in your own soul mate?

A I just want somebody who is willing to have fun and do things like go on a road trip or just stay home and watch movies. I'm really attracted to offbeat people. A girl that is totally intriguing and not a Ford model type will get to me!

Q You and Mandy get married in the film. What was that like?

A It was very surreal! Mandy acted like a real bride and wouldn't let me see her in her gown until we started shooting the scene! So when she walked down the aisle, I was totally nervous—I didn't have to act.

Q Mandy's character has a list of things she absolutely has to do during her life. What's on your list?

A I definitely want to get married and have a family. I want to travel—I'd love to go to Australia. I'd like to go snowboarding. I was more the basketball, baseball, tennis—anything with balls—kinda guy. And I want my band, Average Jo, to put out an album.

Q So, you're a rock star, too. Tell us more about your band!

A Well, it's called Average Jo, and we're going to have a song in the driving scene of the movie. Wait—can you hold on? There's someone at my door and I'm not dressed!

CG!: Uh, sure, we, uh, just forgot the rest of our questions anyway!

KEY movie reviews

Will you need a tissue, or someone to hold your hand? We tell it like it is.

nail-biter
L.O.L.
hot guy alert
sobfest
great music
chick flick

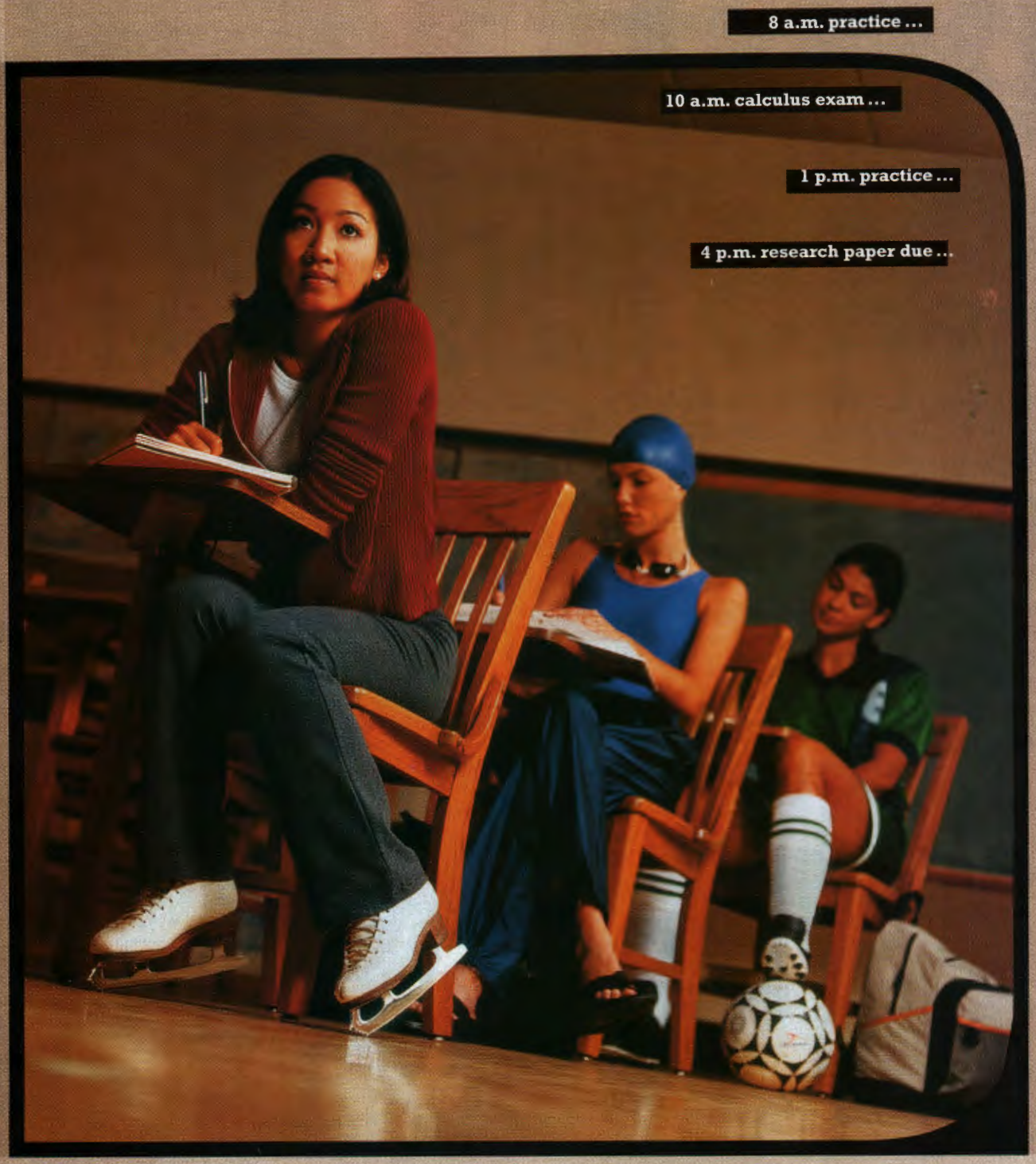
Slackers
Starring: James King, Devon Sawa, and Jason Schwartzman
Dave (Sawa) got through college by cheating. With one semester to go, Ethan (Schwartzman), a nerdy classmate, catches on! Now Dave must help Ethan win over Angela (King)—or get expelled. But Dave falls for Angela too!

A Walk to Remember
Starring: Mandy Moore and Shane West
Landon (West) is a popular tough guy who gets in big trouble for pulling a prank, so he has to join the school play. There, he falls in love with Jamie (Moore), the girl he picked on. Sigh, you'll talk about their bittersweet love affair for months!

Orange County
Starring: Jack Black and Colin Hanks
When Shaun (Hanks) gets rejected from Stanford University, he finds out that his scatterbrained guidance counselor accidentally sent the transcript of the worst student in school—with Shaun's name on it! His every attempt to fix this only makes it *worse!*

CG! CATCHES UP WITH / WEST: CYNTHIA LEVINE/ICON INTERNATIONAL. REEL LOVE / AN *OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN*; *THE WAY WE WERE*; *LOVE STORY*; *BOYS ON THE SIDE*; *THE TRUTH ABOUT CATS AND DOGS*: ALL PHOTOFEST.

CG! LINK You have the power to pick which hot celeb will be on the cover of CG! Vote now at cosmogirl.com/survivalofthesexiest.



THE LIFE OF A STUDENT ATHLETE ISN'T EASY, BUT IT HAS ITS R.E.W.A.R.D.S.

She's Michelle Kwan. Not only is she a figure skating champion, she's a college student too. Juggling the schedule of a student athlete can be like living in two worlds. Sound like your life? Then Michelle and Chevrolet® believe you could be rewarded. In fact, you could earn up to $5,000 toward your education with the Chevrolet/Michelle Kwan R.E.W.A.R.D.S.™ Scholarship program.

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CHEVROLET Michelle Kwan r·e·w·a·r·d·s

CHEVY™

WE'LL BE THERE™

psst... CASH

Your guide to luring in lots of loot. By Anna Roufos

make $100—easy!

What one word (or phrase) describes you to a tee? Turn that trait into a money-making venture! Go with your strengths, says Dollar Diva Joline Godfrey (dollardiva.com), and you'll rake it in like a leaf on a crisp autumn day! Here are four examples:

SHOPPER

money-making idea:
A yard sale You'll get paid to rid your house of the stuff you don't use anymore—for the best price possible. Sell, sell, sell!

what you'll need:
Stuff! Look around your room, garage, or attic for toys, clothes, books, and bikes that have just been sitting there. (Those Beanie Babies you used to love could be worth 50¢ or even $1 each, and old Barbies could be collector's items!) Check out **ebay.com** to see what your items are priced at online. For the other stuff, go to neighborhood tag sales and compare. Then buy plain labels to mark your items with a price.

getting customers:
Your local paper probably charges $3 to $12 to list an ad for a week. Keep your notice short and sweet: Yard sale, collector's items and unusual stuff, 7:30 a.m. (people show up really early to get your best stuff) to 2 p.m., your address. Also post flyers all over your neighborhood. Drive-by traffic is key.

cash flow: **People will try to negotiate the prices down, but hold your line until noon. (Say, "I'm sorry, I can't go below X price for these. They're not worth a penny less!") Then if sales are slow, slash prices. Start the day with $20 (two fives, eight singles, and two bucks in coins) so you can give out change. If you've got valuable (or a lot) of stuff, you could make $100 or even more.**

NEATNIK

money-making idea:
A closet-cleaning service You'll make the most of any space, large or small, by rearranging clothes and shoes, putting stuff in labeled boxes, and tossing out what's unnecessary (ask first!). Beautify!

what you'll need:
Plastic bins, baskets, hooks, boxes to pack items for Goodwill, and cleaning cloths. Get this stuff cheap at 99¢ stores or at wholesalers like Costco. Make sure you figure overhead costs into the overall fee you charge the customer.

getting customers:
Practice first by cleaning out your own closet (you'll get lots of great ideas for your clients). Take (dramatic!) before and after pictures, put them on color flyers, and post them in churches, supermarkets, community centers—any place where there's high traffic. And ask your parents to hand out flyers at work and to their friends. (Once you get started, referrals are the best tool for getting clients.) Before accepting a job, show up (with a parent to make sure it's safe) to check out the size of the closet and to give your customer an estimate (see below).

cash flow: **Charge $15 an hour. Figure on an average of three hours per closet. If you have three clients on a Saturday, that's $135. Subtract about $35 for materials, and *voilà!*—$100!**

TECHNOPHILE

money-making idea:
A computer tutoring service You'll teach adults (many of whom tend to be more technophobic than teens) how to use their computers more efficiently. Some of them might want to learn how to navigate the Internet or find out how to use their e-mail; others will need you to start by showing them where the "on" switch is!

what you'll need:
Strong knowledge about software, the Internet, and e-mail.

getting customers:
Make up flyers that promise "computer confidence" and post them at churches, retirement homes, and community centers, or ask your own parents and grandparents if they will pass them around to their friends (your mantra: Spread the word!). Again, when you show up at a client's house for the first time, bring a parent to make sure that it's safe.

cash flow: **Charge $50 for a two-hour session. If you tutor two clients, you've got your $100 for the day. But don't leave them hanging. Good teachers follow up and go over the material again until the student is comfortable on his or her own. So offer a bonus package where, for an extra $15, you'll come back in a week for another half hour to answer any questions and to make sure they've got the lesson down. It's a good deal for them, extra cash for you, and it shows you care.**

PARTY GIRL

money-making idea:
A Saturday play group for kids You'll organize activities, like a trip to a science museum, a local firehouse, or a T-ball game, so busy parents can have a little much needed alone time (wink, wink, nudge, nudge!).

what you'll need:
A big bag of tricks (crayons, games, puzzles, books, activities) and a place to go, like a basement, a backyard, or a local park. Draft a written agreement about expectations between you and their parents. Important note: Also call the city manager's office (the number is in your phone book) to make sure you're following all child-care laws and regulations.

getting customers:
The best way to do this is to already be a babysitter with a good rep—in this case, word of mouth is everything. (If you'd like to brush up on your skills, take a babysitting course at your local American Red Cross chapter. Check out **redcross.org**.) Bring your parents to meet the kids' parents, then assure them that you are *extremely* responsible. Prove it by getting their contact information and always giving them your plan for the day, with phone numbers for where you can be reached.

cash flow: **Charge $15 per kid. Get four kids for a three-hour morning play group and four for a three-hour afternoon play group, and make $120 for the day!**

PHOTONICA

CG! LINK Have you started your own business? Tell us about it at cosmogirl.com/entrepreneur.

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ORIGINAL FLAVOR
surprisingly hardcore corn snacks
in seven mean flavors™

boy-o-meter

Scope him out and size him up.

rating system: on a scale of fizzle to sizzle...
he's warm | he's hot | he's on fire!

Name: Bruce
Sign: Libra
Height: 6'1"
Weight: 175 pounds
Eyes: Hazel
Hair: Dirty blond
How he got his bod: "I play football, lacrosse, and lift weights when I have free time."
His personal style: "I like comfortable clothes that look good."
His type of girl: "An outgoing girl who's confident in herself."
Typical date: "Go to the movies, grab something to eat, and just go from there."
Signature scent: Cool Water by Davidoff

Cynthia, 17, Tarpon Springs, FL

First glance: He looks like a guy in a boy band.
His style: I like his style. He's got the whole cool and confident look going on—very relaxed.
Body language: He's sexy and he knows it.
Turn-on: His bedroom eyes and his nice arms.
Turnoff: His hair just needs a little *umph!* It's really dull.
Dateable? If he's a cool person, I'd definitely date him. I've gotta know a guy's personality before I go out with him.

I give him: 🔥🔥

Lesley, 16, Ypsilanti, MI

First glance: He reminds me of Ben Affleck.
His style: He actually looks very polished. I like that he's not trying *too* hard to look good.
Body language: He's confident, but not showy.
Turn-on: His mysterious and inviting eyes.
Turnoff: I wish he was smiling. It'd be easier to talk to him.
Dateable? Yes. The way he's standing makes him seem just kind of relaxed. I like dating really laid-back guys.

I give him: 🔥🔥

Cassie, 17, Dexter, MO

First glance: He has the greatest body. Oh yeah!
His style: Those jeans make him look awesome in a sort of bad-boy way. I bet they show off his butt.
Body language: He looks mad about something.
Turn-on: I really love the little flip in his hair.
Turnoff: His shoes. They look like old man shoes—no offense.
Dateable? Yes, of course! He seems like he would be sweet and very caring with me. I think he would be fun!

I give him: 🔥🔥🔥

Marina, 17, Bethesda, MD

First glance: He looks tough but vulnerable.
His style: Trendy but at the same time casual.
Body language: The tilt of his head is flirty.
Turn-on: Those big, cute lips. They have a babyish quality that makes them totally kissable.
Turnoff: He looks kind of dumb. To me, intelligence is attractive.
Dateable? Yes. He seems like he'd always plan something really fun to do and would definitely keep me entertained.

I give him: 🔥🔥🔥

CosmoGIRL! rating: 🔥🔥
Bruce, those lips get *our* kiss of approval!

JENNIFER LIVINGSTON; SITTINGS EDITOR: JOANNA RODGER; GROOMING: TONYA NOLAN.

readhismind

Akibu
17, Aurora, CO

Last year, I trusted girls. This year... I don't know. So you're wondering what happened, right? Gossip happened. Humiliating, school-wide girl gossip, to be precise. Let me explain...

Smell her hands and Marisa Tomei will tell you a secret, too.

gossip girls

Pssst! Did you hear? This guy *hates* it when girls blabber.

ex files

When my ex and I first started going out, we spent hours talking on the phone and hanging out. She gained my trust in a way that no girl ever had, so I told her things I'd never told *anyone*—stuff about how I felt about her, and about me and my friends and my family. Three months later, we broke up, and I started hearing things at school—things that I'd revealed *only* to her. She'd blabbed everything.

gossip psych 101

Everyone gossips, I know that. I think we gossip because we're insecure—and by talking behind people's backs it's like we own some little piece of that person and have more power. People also gossip to bond. They think it'll help them make friends (ha!). Guys *do* gossip, but in my opinion, girls do this more than guys because, overall, girls have more things to be insecure about. With today's media ideal of what the perfect girl should be (beautiful, thin, outgoing, smart), it's totally natural that girls are going to feel inadequate. (Guys don't have to think about this appearance stuff as much.) Also, girls are more into analyzing each other's relationships. (Guys hide more stuff, so there's less for us to gossip about.) That, and girls just *talk* more than we do, period.

the *real* secret

Girls who gossip a lot are unattractive. Wait, actually, I think a *small* amount of gossip is good, because it spices up an otherwise boring day. No guy hates a girl for talking about whether or not Britney Spears got implants. Britney doesn't go to school with us, so she's not going to be directly affected. But what guys *do* hate are girls who gossip about everyone at school. There's this group of girls I know who are friends mostly because all they do is talk about other people. They have no *real* friends because they've talked rudely about everyone. *Guys* don't even like them—and these are good-looking girls! But once you get to know them, you're like, *Naaaah*. Because you know if you get close to them and tell them something "juicy," they'll tell everyone to gain popularity (or what *they* think is popularity). So you learn to stay away. Ultimately, guys want a girlfriend they can talk to and be honest with—and they know they couldn't with these girls.

For a while after my bad experience with my ex, I thought maybe *all* girls were untrustworthy. But lately, my closest girl friends have started to prove to me that *some* girls—confident, nice ones—*can* be trusted.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Hey CGIs, this is an editorial written by a reader—so it's his opinion, not necessarily ours. If you disagree, don't get mad at us, okay?*

answer the question, please! What do guys gossip about?

"Everything! I'll tell my friends that I got a girl's number or that I kissed her (even if I *didn't!*) just so it sounds like I got that girl."
Andrew, 19
NEW YORK, NY

"I don't think it's called *gossiping* when guys do it. If something's up, we'll tell each other vaguely, not spread a detailed rumor."
Chris, 16
FRANKLIN, MA

"I gossip about cute girls, but I'm not *nasty*. Some guys would be like, 'I could hit that.' But I'd just say, 'Hey guys, she's cute.'"
Remy, 18
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI

STEVE SANDS/CORBIS SYGMA.

CG! LINK Know a guy who could write for this page? Tell us about him at cosmogirl.com/readhismind

gettadate

10 date ideas

"What do you want to do?" "I dunno. What do *you* want to do?" *Stop!* And try one of these cool dates. By Lauren Smith

play twister

It'll make you laugh. It'll stretch out your quads. And reaching for that blue dot will put your lips within inches of his cute...elbow. So grab a Twister game at a toy store (about $15) and play! P.S. Feeling shy? Invite some friends over, too. You'll all end up in one giggling heap.

date lotto

Grab the arts section of the local paper (it's usually in there on Friday or Saturday) and tell him to close his eyes and point. Whatever he lands on, you have to do. (You never know: Renaissance Festival? A gallery exhibit of tattoo body art?) It'll put him to the spontaneity test—an important measure of a guy's fun quotient.

go pick something

No, not your nose! We're talking produce, sister! If it's clementine season (like right now) and you live near a grove, go pick some and feed him! Or in the spring, find a field of strawberries. To find local produce farms, go to **yahoo.com** and type in the fruit you want and the state you live in.

picnic scavenger hunt

For this yummy picnic date, you have to search for all the lunch ingredients—together. So, stop by all your friends' houses to collect everything you'll need for the perfect lunch (peanut butter, bread, etc.). Here's the catch: You can only get one item per house, and you have to make up an excuse about why you need it! Then go somewhere cozy, just the two of you, and *mangia!*

get in the swim, girl

Find a year-round indoor pool (try the YMCA in your town), dig your swimsuit out of wherever you store your summer clothes, and go swimming together. No, it's not summer, and yes your legs might be kind of pasty, but get *over* it and have fun like you used to when you were a little kid. Have a cannonball contest, play Marco Polo, and race him with all your strength. Just no dunking, okay? But this time, splashing *is* allowed!

win a prize!

Go to an amusement park (or an arcade if it's cold) and tell him he has a mission: winning you something soft and furry. (How *happy* would that jumbo-size stuffed koala be on your bed?)

laser tag

The cool thing about laser tag is in order to score, you have to aim your laser beam at a target strapped right over his heart. Coincidence? Um, we think *not!* Plus, as we all know, guys love anything involving fake weapons. To find a place to play that's near you, log on to **lasertag.org**. Get a bunch of friends (group date!), split up into teams, and get ready to laser your tush off. You'll never go bowling again!

play-date!

Find a playground and go jungle-gyming together. Trust us, swinging next to your guy on a cold winter day is *so* romantic, and it'll set the stage for lots of numb-nose kisses. Don't forget to stop for hot chocolate on the way home!

truth, no dare

Want to find out the little quirky things about him? Make it a game! Write soul-searching questions on pieces of paper, then stick them in a hat and take turns drawing—and confessing. But be warned: You may have to answer your *own* questions—so no naked baby story Qs, okay?

make like emeril

Tape a cooking show (try *Emeril Live* at 8 p.m. EST weeknights on the Food Network), and then go back and watch it bit by bit to create a yummy dinner together. (Need a cheat sheet? All the recipes are listed at **foodtv.com**). Why go out to eat when you can see him in an apron instead?

RK BARRETT.

CG! LINK Got a dating [redacted] for you! Ask us your urgent dating Qs at cosmogirl.com/dating911

TO GIVE BACK

WE WANT TO HELP YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE SO WE'VE PARTNERED WITH THE PRODUCTS BELOW AND THE FAMILIES OF FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP FUND™ TO HELP DEPENDENTS OF THE VICTIMS OF SEPTEMBER 11. FOR EACH OF THE PRODUCTS BELOW THAT YOU USE, CosmoGIRL! WILL MAKE A DONATION TO FAMILIES OF FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP FUND™.

Bonne Bell Cool Shine

SAMANTHA by Unlisted

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Neutrogena® MoistureShine™ gloss

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Blistex® Fruit Smoothies™

Davidoff Cool Water Woman

Reebok Classic Impulse Ice

COVERGIRL OUTLAST All-Day Lipcolor

Neutrogena® Oil-Free Acne Wash Cleansing Cloths

SUPPORT THE U.S.A. & WIN $500

Everyone needs to do their part to get the U.S. economy back on track! Send in your receipt, or the UPC symbol, along with 50 words or less describing what you've done that's "so CosmoGIRL!" to show your support for America in the wake of the terrorist attacks. For each entry received, we'll donate $.50 to the Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund™*. Plus, all entries will be judged, and CosmoGIRL! will select one outstanding citizen to win a $500 shopping spree at your favorite store!

Send entry info along with your name, address, phone number and age to: CosmoGIRL! Support the U.S.A., P.O. Box 1746, Sandusky, OH 44870

CITIZENS' SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION OF AMERICA, FAMILIES OF FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP FUND and all associated logos are trademarks of Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America, Inc.

The **Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund™**, a program of Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America™ (CSFA), has been created to provide education assistance for postsecondary study to financially needy dependents of those killed or permanently disabled as a result of the September 11th terrorist attacks in the United States. Specifically, the Fund will benefit dependents of the victims, including airplane crew and passengers, World Trade Center and Pentagon workers and visitors, and relief workers, including firefighters, emergency medical personnel and law enforcement personnel. CosmoGIRL! is not affiliated with CSFA. For more information or to make a donation, visit www.familiesoffreedom.org.

*Up to maximum of $2,500 to the fund.

OFFICIAL RULES FOR COSMOGIRL!'S "SUPPORT THE USA AND WIN" CONTEST: To enter, send a store receipt or UPC symbol for one (1) of the participating featured products, and 50 words or less describing what you've done to show your support for America following the September 11th terrorist attacks, along with your name, address, phone number, and age to: CosmoGIRL! "Support the USA", P.O. Box 1746, Sandusky, OH 44870. Entries must be received by midnight EST on February 15, 2002. For every entry received, CosmoGIRL! will donate $.50 to the Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund™ up to $2,500.00 or 5,000 entries. The winning entry will be selected by a qualified panel of CosmoGIRL! judges based on thoughtfulness, creativity, and expression of their entries and notified by phone or mail on or about March 15, 2002. One winner will receive a $500 gift certificate to a retailer or mall near the winner's hometown. Winner (and parents or legal guardian if winner is a minor) will be asked to return an affidavit of eligibility/publicity and liability release within 14 days of notification or an alternate winner will be selected. You must be at least 13 years old to enter, be a legal resident of the US. Subject to all Federal, State and Local laws. Only one entry per person. Rules continue on page 14.

hisdiary

fallen heroes
The memorials for the firefighters hit me hardest. Every station in the city was just covered with these candles and flowers.

Boris, 19, is a college freshman at Cooper Union in New York City, where life changed forever in September. Boris is keeping this diary of his life for us so he can share every kiss, every idea, everything you'd never think guys actually cared about. Love him. Hate him. Welcome to the way a guy's mind *really* works.

we're okay, right?

tuesday

10 a.m. I woke up today and realized it was *exactly* two weeks ago that I'd seen the most awful sight of my life: New York, bombed and terrified. Now here I am, back to regular life, but still in shock. There was a memorial I heard about at Union Square that I wanted to see, so I got dressed and decided to go for a walk. On the way there, I couldn't stop my brain from replaying that day, over and over.

On the morning of September 11, my roommate had woken me up with a stupid joke: "The World Trade Center was bombarded by hijacked jets." I didn't believe him until I saw the view from the neighbors' window. It was surreal. Standing there at the window, we watched the towers collapse under the beautiful sky, and I panicked. My mom *worked* in the World Trade Center. I called and called and finally got through to her—she was fine. She'd gone to work late and was half a block away when the first plane hit. I thanked God she and my dad were alright.

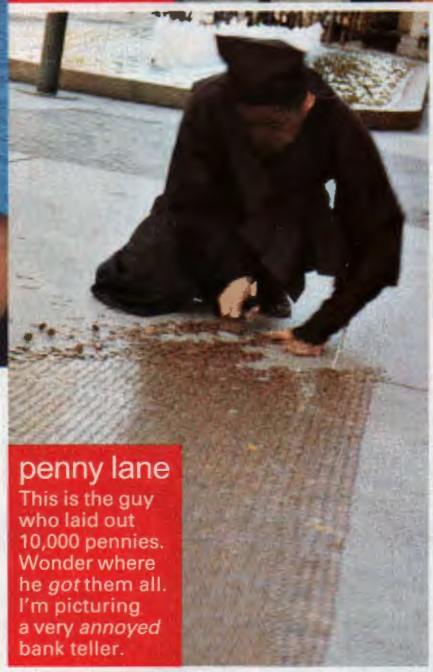
That afternoon, my friends and I went from hospital to hospital trying to donate blood, trying to find someplace where the line wasn't *hours* long. Eventually, we decided to buy food and supplies to donate to the relief workers instead, so we walked into a convenience store and saw the weirdest thing: A woman was standing at the counter buying lottery tickets. It seemed so strange that she was trying to get lucky or whatever while 20 blocks south, people were *dying*. It was all just too ironic. But I guess everyone reacts differently to these things. Back out on the street, people were either walking around in shock or just brushing the whole thing off. I'll never forget the dust-covered businessmen walking the streets like ghosts.

12 p.m. As I walked downtown, the streets *still* smelled like burning chemicals (after two weeks!), and flyers of missing people were posted up everywhere. They listed people's ages and weights and moles—private things that now their families were willing to share if it meant they might get their loved ones back. There was a paper mural at the Union Square memorial where you could add your thoughts (I didn't write anything, though) and a ton of peace signs, which really just pissed me off because they seemed so naive. People didn't want to even acknowledge what had happened. They just wanted peace and to go on with their lives and forget the violence.

JENNIFER LIVINGSTON.

ride away
Here's Masha, Natalie, and me on the subway.

Even after everything, NYC is still so beautiful.



penny lane
This is the guy who laid out 10,000 pennies. Wonder where he *got* them all. I'm picturing a very *annoyed* bank teller.

book nook
School is so much work. I can't say I didn't expect it going in, but I've spent 20 out of the last 48 hours in the art studio working on my projects for class. I mean when's a guy supposed to *sleep?*

8 p.m. I'd heard that Tom Waits (my favorite singer) was staying at the Chelsea Hotel (it's where Sid Vicious's girlfriend Nancy died), so Keight, one of the girls next door, and I checked it out. We didn't see Tom, but on the way back, we decided to go to Union Square. It was easier the second time around and being *with* someone. This time I wrote on the mural—just gave my sympathy and told the story of my September 11. It felt good.

tuesday

3 p.m. Another week later, and life is resuming. Classes started. People went back to work. And I decided to go to the Metropolitan Museum of Art with my friends from school—Masha and Natalie. We took the subway up. It was crowded and we had to cram in tight, and Natalie had to sit on my lap. Not that I minded. Masha met some friends on the steps, so that left just me and Natalie, and we went to the museum's roof. It's romantic and pretty, with cool views of Central Park and all the skyscrapers. Natalie danced around posing like the abstract statues. She's fun and cute, and I like spending time with her.

In the past two days, I've worked in the art studio for 20 hours—not including class—so I don't think I have time for a girlfriend right now. But then maybe that's just an excuse. Stuff with Michele, my ex-girlfirend, ended up not working. I'd thought she was interested, but I guess I misread her signals. We had this messed up night a while back when everything came out—we were finally honest about our intentions and our feelings for each other, and it was a wake-up call: I need to get on with my life and just get over her. But somehow I'm not ready to jump back in with a new girl and go through all that stuff again. Not yet, anyway. Unless I meet my Miss Right, that is. She has to be smart, talented, funny—basically *perfect.*

5 p.m. On the sidewalk in front of the Met, an artist was doing a charity act where he laid 10,000 pennies in rows, to symbolize the people affected in the disaster. We watched him do the last row. Then, just as he finished, he destroyed the whole thing, and put the pennies in a donation box. I've seen lots of weird performance art, but it was so cool to finally see someone doing something that actually had a *purpose.*

7 p.m. Got back to the dorm and ordered pizza with the girls next door. Yeah, I know, it's New York, and you're supposed to go out, but for now, it's nice just to be here, with them. Friends are good when the world is scary. 8

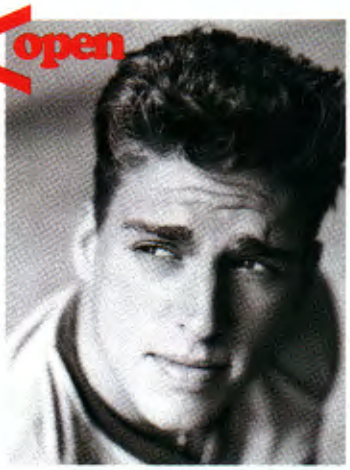
say cheese
The girl chewing next to me is my friend Keight. We like to order pizza from two places: The cheap one and the *good* one. This is the good stuff. *Mmm.*

eye candy

MID-WINTER SNACK

He's hot. No, he's sweet. No, he's hot. No, he's sweet. Um, why are we arguing with ourselves? Meet Brad. He's hot *and* sweet. Enjoy! Photographs by Stephen Danelian

FASHION DIRECTION: JESSICA DIAZ HOLLAND. GROOMING: [illegible]. STYLIST'S ASSISTANT: [illegible]. MODEL: BRAD TENDENT AT [illegible]. JEANS BY LEVI'S. UNDERWEAR BY CALVIN KLEIN UNDERWEAR. T-SHIRTS AND BELT, HIS OWN.



all about brad

NAME: BRAD PINKERT

BIRTHDAY: 2-16-81 BIRTHPLACE: Buffalo, NY

EYE COLOR: Hazel greenish blue HAIR COLOR: Dirty Blond

HEIGHT: 6' 1" WEIGHT: 192 lbs.

FAVORITE BOOK: Bible FAVORITE MOVIE: Boogie Nights

AGE AT FIRST KISS: 12 yrs. old

FAVORITE SONG: "Strawberry Fields" (The Beatles) B.B. Bill, the whole CD

PEOPLE SAY I LOOK LIKE: CHRISTOPHER PINKERT (My Father) Renee' PINKERT (My Mother)

LIFELONG DREAM: To fulfill all my goals, large or small

THE LAST DREAM I HAD: Getting attacked by bulldogs (Honest)

TURN-ONS: Intelligence, laughter, and an alright physique.

TURNOFFS: Loud obnoxious girls, girls who fight, and Too much makeup

FEARS: Cancer, Harm to my family, old age, Falling, and Nuclear war

IF I WERE AN ANIMAL I'D BE: An Elephant, the real King of the jungle

FIRST THING I NOTICE ABOUT A GIRL: Her hair

FAVORITE PLACE IN THE WORLD: Home, w/ Chris, Renee', Jay, Joe, Des, and friends

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*vs. non-conditioning shampoo

cg!quiz

are you his type?

We figured you'd rather hear it from *us*.

DR. ALEXANDER AVILA WITH LAUREN SMITH

YOU: Circle the letter next to the answer that best describes *you*.

1 What would you rather do on a Saturday night?
i. Rent a movie with your best friend.
e. Go to a club with lots of people.

2 Which English class assignment would you prefer?
n. Write a 3-page fictional short story.
s. Write a structured 3-page essay on any topic you like.

3 When you're annoyed with someone, what do you usually do?
t. Confront them, and explain matter-of-factly why you're upset with them.
f. Avoid them (or just avoid the whole issue that's got you all worked up).

4 If you could get backstage passes to your favorite band's concert, but it would mean skipping a serious commitment (like playing in a semi-final basketball game), would you?
j. Yes, but only if you were able to cancel the appointment first.
p. Yes. You could always explain later.

Okay, now write down the letters you circled for each question to get your personality LoveType:

____ ____ ____ ____

HIM: Circle the letter next to the answer that best fits *him*.

1 When you see him around at school (like at lunch), he's...
i. Usually hanging out with the same couple of close friends.
e. Always hanging around with lots of different people.

2 Ask him what he would do if he won the lottery. He says he'd...
n. Do something creative (like start his own movie production company).
s. Buy something big, and save the rest.

3 Ask him what his favorite movie is and why. When he explains what he likes about it, he...
t. Talks mostly about the plot, the acting, or the special effects.
f. Talks mostly about how it made him feel ("It was a total rush"), or how he could relate to the characters.

4 Is he usually on time (to class, or to meet you or his friends)?
j. Yes
p. No

Write down the letters you circled for each of these questions to get *his* personality LoveType:

____ ____ ____ ____

scoring

compare your results to score your compatibility. Start with 10 points, then:

____ Add one extra point for every matching letter you both have.

____ If you're N and he's N, or if you're S and he's S, add six points.

____ If you're E and he's I, subtract five points.

16–20 points: yes You're totally his type. Whether you're friends or more, you just *get* each other. But even perfectly matched couples have *some* differences in their backgrounds or interests. Like if he loves extreme sports and you hate heights, he could help cure you. If you're *too* similar, you'll never change, and that's just boring. So be brave and cherish your differences!

11–15 points: maybe Big parts of your personalities are different, and that *can* be tricky. Survey says? Go ahead, *try* him, see what he's really like. If you can speak your mind even when your personalities clash (like in an argument), he might be a keeper. And if things don't work, it's not your fault—it's just your LoveTypes working against each other.

5–10 points: probably not It's not true love, but you could learn from him as a friend *because* he's so different. But to find your *soul mate*, think of what made you like this guy. Was it superficial? Abs are nice, but look *deeper* at future guys. Notice how he coos about his puppy or argues a point in class. Those peeks into his soul can attract you in ways that *prove* you're a good match—no quiz required.

Dr. Alexander Avila is the author of *LoveTypes: Discover Your Romantic Style and Find Your Soul Mate* (Avon Books).

how it works: Four traits determine your LoveType, which in turn affects your relationships.

Introverted/Extroverted Introverts love working alone. Extroverts are super-outgoing. Introverted guys tend to dislike extroverted girls.

INtuitive/Sensing N's are imaginative. S's are realistic. Matching couples communicate well.

Thinking/Feeling T's like making decisions with their brain. F's rely on their heart instead. F-girls and T-guys are the most common couple combo.

Judging/Perceiving J's like structure. P's are spontaneous. J/P couples fight over being late.

ROCK AND ANDERSON; JEFF KLEIN/LIAISON; PUZZLE: CHRIS BARTLETT.

ilovethese

love connection
Belt, Fantas-Eyes, $15, 800-352-7419

candy wrapper
Bikini, 8.5 Quake, $62, 760-295-1276

I ♥ BAD BOYS

Who needs a boyfriend when you can buy your *own* darn presents?

lock star
Necklace, Depeche Mode 5th Ave., $18, at Wet Seal, wetseal.com

lipper snapper
Sweatshirt, Hot Kiss, $29, at Up Against the Wall, 202-337-6610

detention getter
Cami, $18, and Shorts, $14, DOLLHOUSE INTIMATES, dollhouse.com

love letters
Earrings, My Generation, $8, e-mail feedback@skaffles.com

gra-feet-i
Shoes, SUGAR SHOES, $32, 800-349-9538

heart attack
Peasant blouse, XOXO, $44, xoxo.com

carrybradshaw
Bag, LeSportsac, $31, 212-625-2626

JAMES WESTMAN

CG! LINK Play CG!'s amazing fashion game at cosmogirl.com/fashionaddict

Reebok
CLASSIC
ToughChoiceClassic

rescue911

Easy tricks to put some instant cool in your closet.

craft-matic

We *all* live for those Levi's karaoke commercials. But now you don't have to *humiliate* yourself to "make them your own." This DIY kit includes patches, Cray-pas, markers, and studs, so you can fully go artsy-fartsy (just not *literally*, please!) on your jeans. Oh, and go to page 130 to see *more* fabulous DIY ideas. **Levi's Customization Kit**, $26, 800-USA-LEVI.

CosmoGIRL! DIY

Make your friends jealous of your fine tush with a few yards of lace.

step 1: Grab an old denim skirt and chop it into a mini with a pair of sharp scissors. (Don't have a skirt? Get one at The Salvation Army.)

step 2: Now buy five yards of gathered 2½"-wide lace from a fabric store.

step 3: Lay the skirt on a table, butt side up. Cut a row of lace to fit the span of the skirt 1" below the waistband. Pin it in place; then sew the top down. Remove pins. Repeat with new layers, working down the skirt. Place each new row of lace beneath the one above it so they overlap (we used nine layers of lace).

step 4: Try it on, look in the mirror, and... *holy smokes!* You look booty-ful.

trendoid wrist gloves

Celeb chickies have spoken: These accessories are totally hot stuff. And if you tap your wrists together, you'll have superpowers. (Okay, not really.) Try this one by **MTV Brand Accessories**, $12, e-mail info@buyriteinc.com.

JACQUELINE'S PICK

See what our cool fashion director is obsessed with now.

mini bag Ever thought cartoon animals could be cool? Sooprise, sooprise. We're officially in *love* with the newest **Paul Frank** accessories, costarring Hello Kitty herself. Coin purse, $34, paulfrank.com.

GIFT GUY'D

Heart Decision We called guys all over America to ask what they *really* want for V-Day (yeah, we're brave), and their top pick was, drum roll, please: boxers! (Runner up? A watch.) Just don't give them to him till you get *your* roses, okay? Silky boxers, **JOE BOXER**, $20, joeboxer.com

COSMOGIRLI DIY / TOM SCHIERLITZ; SITTINGS EDITOR: JOANNA RODGER. JACQUELINE'S PICK / ILLUSTRATION: YOKO IKENO; STILL LIFE: LUIS ERNESTO SANTANA. GIFT GUY'D / STILL LIFE: CHRIS BARTLETT. CG! TRENDOID / STILL LIFE: CHRIS BARTLETT; ELECTRA: HENRY MCGEE/GLOBE PHOTOS; ANDERSON: JODY ANTHONY CORTES/CORBIS SYGMA; FORD: CARMEN VALDES/GALELLA. CRAFT-MATIC / STILL LIFE: LUIS ERNESTO SANTANA.

CG! LINK Are you a Fashion Addict? Play CG!'s hot style game and find out! cosmogirl.com/fashionaddict.

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mostwanted

1 **ultra violet**
Sneakers, Nike, $70, at Lady Foot Locker, 800-991-6687

4 **green light**
Zip-up jacket, American Eagle Outfitters, $39, ae.com

2 **day braider**
Jeans, Gap, $48, 800-GAP-STYLE

3 **extension cord**
Corduroy shorts, Tilt, $30, at Pacific Sunwear, 888-4PAC-SUN

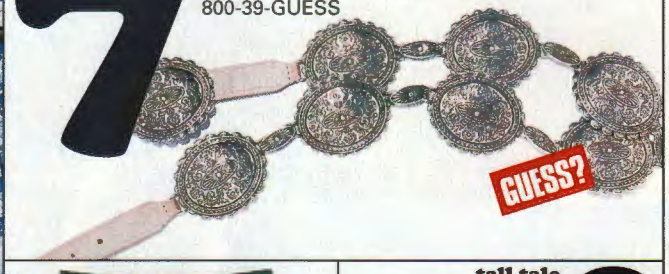
perfect 10

Meet the 10 most groovy items at the mall right this *second*. Now get out there and support the economy, okay?

5 **cherry garcia**
Keyhole tank, Wet Seal, $26, wetseal.com

6 **wild flower**
Shirt, EXPRESS, $40, express fashion.com

7 **silver belles**
Belt, GUESS? Belts, $38, 800-39-GUESS



8 **mini bars**
Skirt, OLD NAVY, $18, 800-OLD-NAVY

9 **tall tale**
Strappy, flowered heels, Nine West, $69, 800-260-2227

10 **lucky stripe**
Bag, STEVE MADDEN, $42, 800-SIR-MADD

CHRIS BARTLETT.

CG! LINK Are you a true Fashion Addict? Prove yourself! Play our fun game at cosmogirl.com/fashionaddict.

Frankie Muniz

Miracle In Lane 2

Kirsten Storms

ZENON the Zequel

Erik von Detten

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Walt Disney HOME VIDEO

whadjawear?

Monica Keena

Kelly LeVesque

Sarah Jessica Parker

Geri Halliwell

slit happens

Let the *other* girls wear turtlenecks, CosmoGIRL!

Solange Knowles

Charlotte Church

Brittany Daniel

Tara Reid

CG! PERSONAL SHOPPER

RAMPAGE, $34, rampage.com

DKNY Jeans, $79, 800-777-4524

Paris Blues, $24, at Delia's, 800-335-4269

STILL LIFES: CHRIS BARTLETT; KEENA: ED GELLAR/GLOBE PHOTOS; LEVESQUE: PHIL ROACH/IPOL; PARKER: JEFF VESPA/WIREIMAGE.COM; HALLIWELL: DAVE PARKER/ALPHA/GLOBE PHOTOS; KNOWLES: KEN BABOLCSAY/IPOL; CHURCH: PHIL ROACH/IPOL; DANIEL: SONIA MOSKOWITZ/GLOBE PHOTOS; REID: EVAN AGOSTINI/IMAGEDIRECT.

CG! LINK Play CG!'s Fashion Addict game—it's got all new clothes—at cosmogirl.com/fashionaddict.

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makeupbag

feel the love

Listen, sister—you're *already* sexy. We've just found five ways to *feel* as hot as you look.

1 fat lip Soft, pillow-like lips whisper, "You *know* you want to kiss me." So apply a lip-plumping gloss over bare lips—and watch your pucker grow (it'll tingle as it works, kitten!). Try **Liquid Kiss Plump + Polish,** $15, 818-343-5480.

2 dream catcher Light a few scented candles, dim (or just turn off) the bathroom lights, and slide into a warm, sudsy tub. *Mmm*—sweet daydreams? No, you *are* a goddess. Try **Love Potion No. 9 Bubble Bath,** $12, spacadet.com.

3 bat girl Wear false lashes and flirt with yourself in the mirror! Just pick up two strips of falsies, trim them to a quarter-inch, then apply the short strips over your top lashes at the outer corners. Try **Maybelline Expert Eyes Lashes,** $7, at drugstores.

4 hippy chick Apply a temporary tattoo to your hip bone (or someplace only *you* will see). It'll be your sexy little secret—kind of like red lingerie (but not so corny). Try **Temptu's Paint-On Mini Kit,** $12, temptu.com.

5 oil thrill After a shower, slather on scented body oil. You'll glisten, smell like flower heaven, and feel softer than you have since your first birthday. Try **Archipelago Botanicals Massage & Body Oil in Venus,** $15, spashoppe.com.

COLETTE DE BARROS; STILL LIFES: GREG BROOM.

COSMO girl!

COMING NEXT MONTH

CosmoGIRL!'s MARCH ISSUE ON SALE FEBRUARY 5

CosmoGIRL! Prom Kiss of Approval Awards

Your picks for the hottest dresses, shoes, and accessories around

The 8 Best Spring Break Destinations

Guys and Their Mind Games

We'll show you how to win!

Unleash Your Inner Psychic!

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makeupbag

The hottest looks and gotta-try-it trends.

win it!

kissy face! Whipping out a mirror at lunch is (totally!) acceptable with **Clinique's** cute **Compact Kisses.** Fifty CosmoGIRL! readers will win their very own—get all the details at cosmogirl.com/winit or page 130.

mod-ern beauty

the trend: Very pale pink lips
why you want it: It's so **'60s mod**—in a groovy **2002** way.
how to get it: Color in your lips with a lip liner that's one full shade lighter than your natural lip color (try **Maybelline Wear'n Go Lipliners,** $7, at drugstores). Then slick on a light-pink lipstick (fair skin, try **Maybelline Wet Shine Lipstick in Ice Princess,** *left;* medium skin, try **Pink Pout;** dark skin, try **Mauvelous,** all $7, at drugstores). Complement your lips with liquid liner and mascara. *Ooh,* baby!

CG! celeb trend: red shadow

Scarlett Johansson

Blu Cantrell

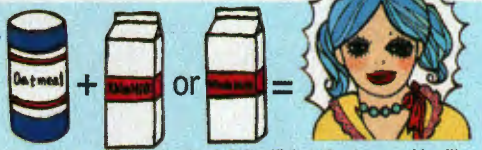
Mena Suvari

Okay, so it sounds weird to *want* red eyes—but the way these celebs sport them is really hot, right? Just dust plummy-red eye shadow (try **Jane Eye Shadow in Retro Active,** $3, at drugstores) from lash line to crease. Add black liner, some mascara—and see? You don't look a *bit* like you've been crying.

CosmoGIRL! recipe

Skin-Smoothing Mask

To shrink your pores (and make your face super-soft), whip together your own deep-cleaning mask:



Grind ¼ cup of plain uncooked oatmeal in a blender (for 30 seconds), then combine it with 2 tbsp. of milk (skim for normal to oily skin; whole for sensitive or dry). Mix together in a bowl, then pat the paste onto clean skin. Lie down on your back (so mask chunks don't fall off) for 15 minutes. You'll really feel the mask tightening! Rinse off with warm water and a washcloth.
WARNING: *Do a recipe patch test on your inner arm first, then wait 24 hours for signs of irritation. A-okay? Apply to your face.*

BEAUTY TIP **Storing your lipsticks and fragrances in the fridge will make them last longer.**

MOD-ERN BEAUTY / HENRY LOPEZ; SITTINGS EDITOR: JOANNA RODGER; HAIR: SUSANA PERKS AT BRADLEY CURRY MANAGEMENT; MAKEUP: NICCI AT BRADLEY CURRY MANAGEMENT; STILL LIFE: GREG BROOM; EXPERT: MALLY RONCAL, NYC-BASED MAKEUP ARTIST. WIN IT! / LUIS ERNESTO SANTANA. CELEB TREND / STILL LIFE: GREG BROOM; JOHANSSON: JOHN SPELLMAN/RETNA; CANTRELL: PAUL SMITH/FEATURE FLASH/RETNA; SUVARI: JILL JOHNSON/JPI. OTHER CREDITS, SEE PAGE 130.

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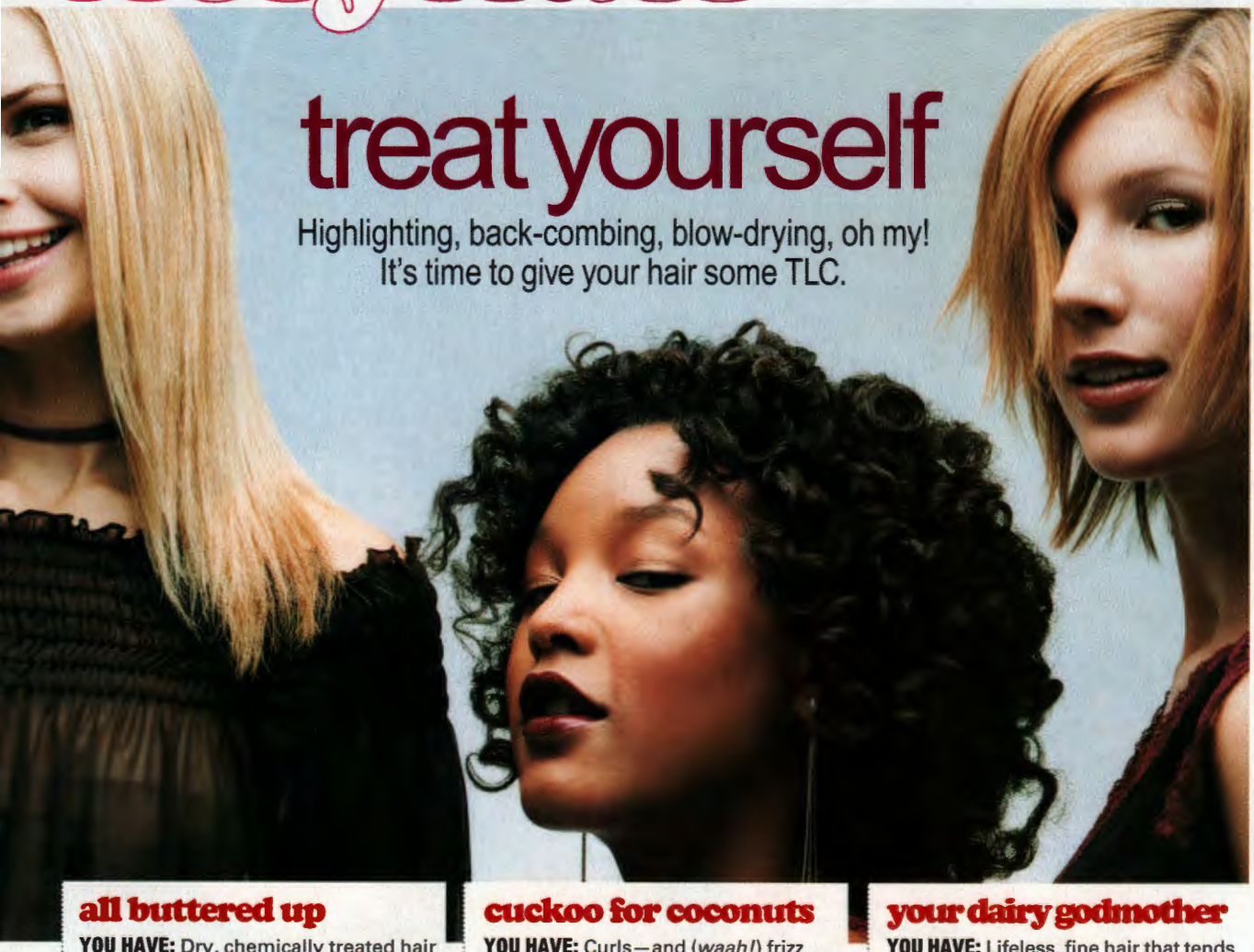
holyhair



treat yourself

Highlighting, back-combing, blow-drying, oh my! It's time to give your hair some TLC.

all buttered up

YOU HAVE: Dry, chemically treated hair (like if you've colored or relaxed)
YOU'LL NEED: ¼ stick of regular **butter** and 3 tablespoons of **olive oil**
DO THIS: Nuke the butter on high for 10 seconds in a microwave-safe bowl (you want to soften, not melt it). Then stir in the oil and mix well. Use your fingers to massage the mixture onto dry hair, roots to ends, then slick it back with a comb (or twist it up in a clip)—wait 15 minutes. Shampoo twice, then use a detangling rinse (try **Paul Mitchell The Detangler,** $8, paulmitchell.com). P.S. For short hair, divide the butter and oil amounts (*above*) in half.

It's okay, *use* us (we *like* it). Aim for once a week.

cuckoo for coconuts

YOU HAVE: Curls—and (*waah!*) frizz
YOU'LL NEED: ¼ cup of **coconut milk** (get it in the baking supplies or Asian foods aisle at your grocery store); 1 tablespoon of **honey**; 1 teaspoon of **walnut oil** (if you can't find this anywhere, olive oil will work just fine too)
DO THIS: In a small bowl, stir together the three ingredients (for about 30 seconds). Use your hands to scoop out the mix and massage it into your damp, freshly shampooed hair. Gently comb through. Leave it on for 15 minutes, then shampoo again. Follow with a light conditioner (try **Thermasilk Daily Clarifying Conditioner,** $4, at drugstores). For best results, repeat every two weeks or so.

To avoid drips, strip—*then* apply.

your dairy godmother

YOU HAVE: Lifeless, fine hair that tends to fall flat an hour after you style it
YOU'LL NEED: ½ cup of powder **henna** in "neutral" or "natural" (try **Avigal Henna,** $12, at Ball Beauty Supply, 800-588-0244); ¼ cup of warm **water** (from the tap's fine); 2 tablespoons of **plain yogurt**; a **small paint brush.**
DO THIS: In a medium-size bowl, combine the yogurt, water, and henna—stir until you have a green, creamy paste. Now use the brush to paint the mixture on your dry hair, roots to ends. If the mix thickens too much, add more water. Leave on for 20 minutes (it'll harden slightly), then rinse. Shampoo, rinse again. Try to repeat once a month.

Fear not! This henna won't add any color.

WARNING: Before you try any of these recipes, do a patch test. Just follow the directions, but spread the mix on a small section of hair/scalp in your underlayer (not your whole head). Wait an hour (refrigerate your mix), and if there's no itching or irritation, you're good to go.

HENRY LOPEZ; SITTINGS EDITOR: JOANNA RODGER; HAIR: SUSANA PERKS AT BRADLEY CURRY; MAKEUP: NICCI AT BRADLEY CURRY; STILL LIFES: GREG BROOM; EXPERTS: FEDERICO CALCE, OWNER OF THE FEDERICO SALON (ALL BUTTERED UP); JANICE COX, AUTHOR OF *NATURAL BEAUTY AT HOME*; HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY (CUCKOO FOR COCONUTS AND YOUR DAIRY GODMOTHER). OTHER CREDITS, SEE PAGE 130.

holy hair

Make *every* day a good hair day.

CosmoGIRL! hair dare

What it is: A two-toned ponytail—with a twist

What you need: A hair elastic, two hair pieces ($5–$10 at most beauty supply stores), and a long, narrow clip. Choose hair pieces that totally contrast your own hair color (like black pieces on blonde hair, platinum on black, etc.) so your streaks really pop out.

What to do: Pull your hair back into a high ponytail, secure with the elastic, then neatly tuck the ends of the hair pieces under the elastic about an inch apart (put them on the top side of your tail so you *see* the streaks). Now clip the tail at your nape. Ooh, foxy lady!

CG! celeb trend: join the band

India Arie

Shakira

Alicia Keys

Who says a headband *has* to hold back hair? To get crowned like these celebs, accessories designer **Tarina Tarantino** recommends heading to a craft store for a nickel-size bead (any shape and color you want) and a foot and a half of craft wire. Just string the bead onto the wire, shape the wire into a half-circle (like a tiara), and knot each end so the bead doesn't slip off. Finally, slide on the crown and secure with pins. *Youch!* You're hot, CosmoGIRL!

hairy monsters

These stylers *look* innocent. But use them on your hair, and you'll be sorry.

BAD GUY	CRIME	SUBSTITUTE
rubber bands	Elastics with metal clasps—or those without fabric covers (a.k.a. rubber bands)—rip at your hair when they cinch it, causing split ends and serious breakage.	Fabric scrunchies are your best bet. Runner-up: covered elastics without metal teeth (try **Goody Ouchless Hair Elastics, $3,** at drugstores). It sounds so obvious, but it's worth repeating.
detergent-y shampoo	If a shampoo's first or second ingredient is "sodium lauryl sulfate" (look on the label), it can be very drying for curly, coarse, or chemically treated hair.	A shampoo that says "gentle" or "for daily use" is probably safe for anyone—still, check the label to be sure (try **Paul Mitchell Shampoo One Gentle Cleansing, $5,** www.jpms.com).
plastic bristles	Brushes with plastic bristles are just too rough on your strands. The hard bristles don't bend, so they can get stuck in (and eventually break) your hair. Scary!	A boar-bristled brush is flexible (so it won't tear at your hair), and it'll distribute natural oil throughout your hair to enhance shine (try **Spornette Boar Bristle Brush, $9,** sallybeauty.com).

curly hair rules!

To show how much we love curly-haired girls, we got Ouidad (the world's top curly-hair expert!) to give away 25 sets of her genius **Curl Quencher Shampoo and Conditioner.** (Your ringlets will *thank* you!) Enter to win at cosmogirl.com/winit—or go to page 130 for details.

DIDJA KNOW?

We all want healthy hair—but, hello? It's dead. Otherwise haircuts would hurt!

CGI HAIR DARE/HENRY LOPEZ; SITTINGS EDITOR: JOANNA RODGER; HAIR: SUSANA PERKS AT BRADLEY CURRY; MAKEUP: NICCI AT BRADLEY CURRY; TANK BY CK CALVIN KLEIN JEANS; EXPERT: AVEDA STYLIST CHARLIE MORRIS-PRICE. CURLY HAIR RULES! / ILLUSTRATION: TERRY TANNEHILL. DIDJA KNOW? / SOURCE: *BEAUTY: THE NEW BASICS* BY RONA BERG, WORKMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY, 2001. OTHER CREDITS, SEE PAGE 130.

trythis!

small wand-er

Maybelline Lash Discovery Mascara, $7, at drugstores

why it's smart: The cute shrunken brush that comes with this mascara makes it easier to comb through short lashes (like on your bottom lash line) without getting clumpy.
reader review: "Brilliant. A mascara you can use without poking yourself in the eye or smearing black goo." **Rosanna, 20, Decatur, IL**

hidden agenda

Clinique Gentle Light Powder, $20, clinique.com

why it's smart: This powder's complex light-reflecting properties make your skin look clearer (minus the powdered donut effect).
reader review: "This made the broken-out area on my chin disappear. Plus, it boosted my natural skin color a little, so I looked more glow-y." **Lori, 19, Elon, NC**

glide-iator

Gillette Venus Razor, $8, at drugstores

why it's smart: The razor head pivots back and forth so it moves more easily over your skin. Plus, it has three blades (not just one) to cut more hair with each stroke. Cool!
reader review: "It gave me the closest shave ever, without a lot of hassle. And the blades are so easy to change." **Becca, 16, Salmon, ID**

love is blonde

Rusk Color Brightening Shampoo, $10, rusk1.com

why it's smart: It tones down the yellow in blonde or highlighted hair, so your hair looks bright and shiny—not brassy.
reader review: "My blonde hair was looking dish-watery—and this *did* make it look blonder. Plus you just wash like regular shampoo. Easy!" **Amanda, 17, Chehalis, WA**

dry idea

Bumble and bumble hair powder, $27, bumbleandbumble.com

why it's smart: It "cleans" greasy hair without water (yup, no shower needed). And it comes in a *range* of colors (so brunettes don't look dipped in talcum powder).
reader review: "This got rid of oil *and* thickened my hair." **Yadid, 17, Harbor City, CA**

queen of clean

Noxzema H_2Foam Cleansing Cloths, $6, at drugstores

why it's smart: It's a makeup remover, cleanser, exfoliator, and washcloth in one (cha-ching). Plus it deep-cleans, so it's really great for acne-prone skin.
reader review: "It got rid of my soccer practice grime, and there were no dirty towels to clean up after." **Margaret, 17, Hartford, CT**

real genius

These beauty products get high fives for innovation. But—do they *work*? CosmoGIRL! testers tell all...

CG! LINK Want to be a CG! tester? Go to cosmogirl.com/trythis.

JENNIFER ROBBINS; STILL LIFES: LUIS ERNESTO SANTANA.

asktheexpert

CG! has simple solutions to fix your problem fast.

Want a free hotel room? Tell Paris Hilton her eyes look good.

holy smokes!

Q How can I get my eyes to have that sexy, smoky look? Every time I try, I end up making a smudgy mess.
—Jasmine, 16, Birmingham, AL

A Getting smoky eyes isn't as hard as it looks. We asked New York City makeup artist Gigi Hale to share her method. (You don't see any smudgies on Faith Hill, do you? Because she's *Gigi's* client!) First, sharpen a brown or black pencil and line inside your lower rim (try **MAC Eye Pencil in Ebony,** $11, maccosmetics.com). Then, line your upper and lower lash lines, inner to outer corner. Smudge both lines with a cotton swab. Now dust a shimmery brown shadow (try **MAC Eye Shadow in Patina,** $13, maccosmetics.com) from your lash line to your crease (brown shadow looks less garish than black). Then apply a matte, dark brown shadow in *just* your crease (try **MAC Eye Shadow in Espresso,** $13, maccosmetics.com). The outer edge of your shadow should fall between the outer corner of your eye and the end of your brow. The farther out you go, the more dramatic the effect (see Paris Hilton, *above*). Finally, use the same matte brown shadow to go over your lash lines again. Now clean up any stray shadow with a fresh cotton swab and swipe on two coats of mascara (try **MAC Pro Lash in Coal Black,** $9, maccosmetics.com). Now you're *smokin'*, sister—but not melting.

oil slick

Q I have very oily hair. I wash it every morning—but by the afternoon it's greasy again. What can I do?
—Sarah, 18, Sayreville, NJ

A Don't worry—this plan from Coco Santiago, a stylist at New York City's Bumble and bumble Salon, will leave you virtually oil-free: Use a see-through shampoo (as opposed to the creamy kind) containing tea tree oil (try **Hair Therapy Soothing Tea Tree Oil Shampoo,** $4, 800-326-7256) once a day. The tea tree oil balances your scalp's oil production (the same way toner controls the oil on your face). Skip conditioner unless you have long hair—and then, just use a light detangler on your ends (try **Hair Therapy Calming Tea Tree Oil Conditioner,** $4, 800-326-7256). When you style, stick to alcohol-based products, like gel and mousse, instead of oil-based products, like smoothing balm. And finally, try not to touch your hair so much (you know, tucking it behind your ears and stuff). Constant fiddling spreads dirt and oil from your hands (which have more dirt than you want to *know*) onto your hair, making it limp.

EMERGENCY!

Q I plucked my brows too thin—really thin. How can I make them look fuller while they grow? **—Whitney, 16, San Diego, CA**

A Don't worry—brow powders and pencils are *made* for this kind of thing (because let's be honest—who *hasn't* over-plucked at some point?). To fill in tiny bald spots (where there's no hair at all), it's best to use a brow pencil. Choose one that looks like it's a shade or so lighter than your brow color (try **L'Oréal Brow Colourist Pencils,** $9, at drugstores)—it doesn't have to be exact—just don't go any *darker.* Now (and here's the trick) sharpen the pencil until it's a weapon (*really* sharp), then lightly (*lightly!*) fill in the holes with short hair-like strokes. To keep from looking spotty, follow up by brushing a little colored brow powder (it should also be lighter than your natural shade) over your whole brow (try **L'Oréal Brow Powderist Duos,** $7, at drugstores). Finish by combing through your brows with a clean toothbrush to get rid of excess powder—and blend, blend, blend. That should do it until your brows grow back in. Give them around six to eight weeks.

HILTON: HENRY MCGEE/GLOBE PHOTOS; EXPERTS: GIGI HALE, MAKEUP ARTIST FOR ARTISTS (HOLY SMOKES!); PHILIP B., L.A. STYLIST AND AUTHOR OF *BLENDED BEAUTY*, COCO SANTIAGO, STYLIST AT BUMBLE AND BUMBLE, AND FREDERIC PIGNAULT, PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AT BUMBLE AND BUMBLE (OIL SLICK). OTHER CREDITS, SEE PAGE 130.

what's up doc?

Honest answers to your most personal body questions. By Andrea Marks, M.D.

keeping secrets

"My pap smear showed I have HPV, but I've never had an outbreak of genital warts. I'm afraid to tell my boyfriend. Do I really have to?"

—Mara, 16

HPV is the name of a large family of viruses that includes genital warts (painless cauliflower-like bumps on your genitals), as well as other strains that can cause cervical cancer. So it's possible to test positive for HPV and not have genital warts.

Either way, you *do* have to tell your boyfriend (sorry!), because you can transmit the virus to him through skin-to-skin contact or bodily fluids. That's why, if you're sexually active, using condoms is even more important now—they're the best way to make sure that you won't pass it on.

It'll be hard to tell him, but if the situation were reversed, wouldn't you want him to be honest with *you?* Start by telling him exactly what you've told us, then tell him that condoms should protect him, but they aren't a 100 percent guarantee. HPV is *not* the end of the world. And if you don't make it sound like it is, he may not think it is, either. If he wants more information, suggest **www.ashastd.org**.

reliable signs

"What are the signs of pregnancy?"

—Maria, 15

A missed period is the most common sign of pregnancy. But if you have irregular cycles (you skip months), it's not the most reliable sign for you.

A lot of the early signs feel like PMS—tender or swollen breasts, headaches, backaches, food cravings, or feeling extreme tiredness. If your areola (the nipple area) gets darker brown than usual, that could also be an early sign. Also, many women feel nauseated (they call it morning sickness, but it can happen at any time of day) and urinate a lot.

The only way to know for sure, though, is from a urine or blood test. You can get one from a doctor or a clinic (or do an at-home test—it's as effective, if done correctly) two weeks after you've missed your period. Most Planned Parenthood clinics have hours for walk-in pregnancy testing (some right after school), and the cost is based on what you can afford. The service is completely confidential, so if you don't want your parents to find out, they won't. If it turns out you *are* pregnant, talk to an adult you trust about what to do next. If you don't feel like you have an adult to confide in, discuss your options with a clinic counselor (call **800-230-7526** to find the closest Planned Parenthood clinic). If you're scared to go alone, bring a friend.

JASON TODD. OTHER CREDITS. SEE PAGE 130.

time sensitive

"I don't want to get pregnant but I'm afraid to go to a clinic for birth control. When is the safest time to have sex?"

—Ana, 17

There *is* no safe time to have unprotected sexual intercourse. Many women mistakenly believe that they can only get pregnant a couple of days each month, when they ovulate (produce an egg that can be fertilized by a sperm). But it's not that simple. First, teens' menstrual cycles are erratic—so forget about trying to figure out which day you're ovulating. Then you have to consider how long sperm and the egg can survive in your body: Sperm can survive in your body for up to three days and your egg can live for a few days after ovulation. So there's a weeklong span in which you can get pregnant (not one day). And since it's impossible to predict exactly when you ovulate, you can never tell for sure when that week will fall. If you are sexually active, the best way to avoid pregnancy (and prevent STDs) is to use protection *every* time you have sex. And while it's normal to be nervous about buying birth control and going to a clinic (find one through **plannedparenthood.org**), there's no reason to be afraid or embarrassed. Professionals there talk with teens about all *kinds* of health issues, and many provide free or low-cost contraception. One thing to think about, though: If you're afraid to go to a clinic, it might be a sign you're not ready for the responsibility of a sexual relationship. That's okay. But be sure that when you *do* have sex, you're able to take the steps that will keep you and your partner safe from pregnancy—*and* STDs (go to **teenwire.com** for birth control options). But even if you practice safe sex, accidents do happen. Remember that there is only one way to *guarantee* that you won't get pregnant: Don't have sex.

touchy issue

"I masturbate a lot. Is that really normal?"

—Sarah, 16

Your hormones kick in between the ages of 9 and 17. That prompts a lot of sexual energy. Masturbation (stimulating yourself sexually) is one way that some people release that energy.

Strange that something believed to be so common is rarely talked about, huh? But the M-word makes some people feel shameful or guilty, maybe because they've been taught that touching their body in a pleasurable way is "dirty," or even that it causes blindness. Others think only "desperate" people (meaning those not having sex) masturbate. But lots of sexually active people do it. The bottom line is that masturbation is a private thing that you shouldn't feel ashamed of doing *or* not doing.

It *can* be a problem if you feel that you masturbate too often (like, you do it *instead* of doing things you used to enjoy). Go to **teenwire.com** to learn more.

kiss of death

"I read somewhere that you can get HIV from 'bodily fluids.' Can you get it from French kissing?"

—Callie, 17

You *can* get HIV from bodily fluids. It's transmitted when blood, semen (including preseminal fluids which are released before a guy ejaculates), vaginal fluid, saliva, or breast milk from an infected person enters your body. French kissing is considered "low risk," though saliva does have low levels of HIV, which can enter an uninfected person's body if she has any open cuts or sores in her mouth.

You're smart to be concerned about HIV—about half of all new HIV infections are among people ages 15 to 25 (go to **www.ashastd.org/nah/tty.html** to learn more). Before becoming sexually active with anyone, ask about his or her health status and sexual history. If they've been sexually active but haven't had an HIV-test, or they won't even *talk* about it, hold off on getting physical. Your safety comes first!

last-ditch effort

"How does the morning-after pill work?"

—Ashley, 16

If a woman has unprotected intercourse (like, if the condom broke or if she's been raped), she can take the "morning-after pill" to prevent pregnancy. But let's be clear: The morning-after pill (also known as Emergency Contraception, or E.C.) is not necessarily a Get Out of Pregnancy Free card. It gives you a last chance to avoid getting pregnant, but one in four women who take it will *still* get pregnant, and it may keep you in bed for the entire day because it can make you feel like you have the flu, or make you throw up.

E.C. pills contain high doses of estrogen and progesterone, *or* just progesterone, which can stop or delay ovulation. That way, there's no egg for the sperm to fertilize (this is *not* an abortion). If there is an already-fertilized egg, E.C. may prevent it from attaching to the uterine wall and growing.

For E.C. to work, you'll need to get and fill a prescription for it within 72 hours of having unprotected sex (go to **not-2-late.com** for info on E.C. brands and doctors in your area). Then you have to take two doses 12 hours apart.

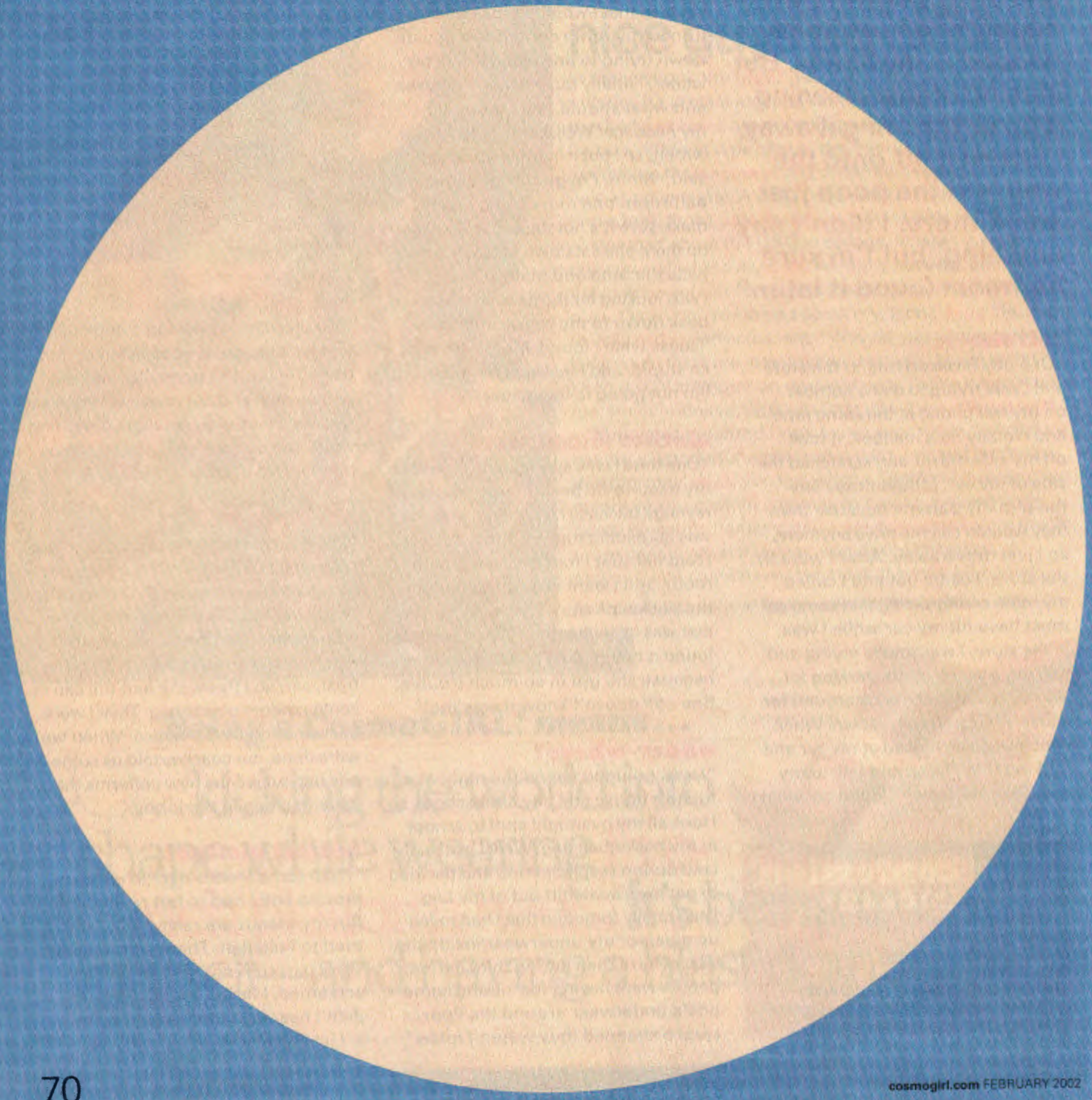
But instead of finding yourself in need of E.C., protect yourself with two kinds of birth control—a condom (to help prevent STDs) and one other method. Check out **www.iwannaknow.org** for all the contraception options out there.

timeout

Motivation for your mind and inspiration for your soul. By Cathy Malchiodi

circle of life

The round space below is called a *mandala*, which is Sanskrit for *center* or *magic circle*. About 100 years ago, a psychiatrist named Carl Jung figured out that drawing in a circle actually reveals a lot about a person's personality. Doing it on a regular basis, in a journal or a diary, is a natural stress-reducer. It can also help you find emotional balance in life and relationships. To try out the mandala, draw any shapes or designs inside the circle below. When you're done, read the analysis on the next page **(no peeking before then!)**. It can help you solve a problem or reach a goal. Now draw!



CATHY MALCHIODI IS THE AUTHOR OF *THE ART THERAPY SOURCEBOOK*, LOWELL HOUSE.

symbols

You may have drawn many different shapes and symbols in your mandala. When reading the descriptions below, just think about what's going on in your life and what makes sense to you to get the best analysis possible. Several of these boxes might apply to your picture.

multi-pointed stars

Your life is in *total* harmony. This is the best time for everything, but especially interacting with other people—in relationships, your career, and working with a group to achieve any goals you've set. Nothing gets you down these days. Everything makes sense, everything is *beautiful!* We can't always stay in this place, so enjoy it while it lasts!

concentric circles

Lately you're feeling out of control, powerless or picked on because you're an easy target. (Get it? Bull's-eye.) You also might feel like you're under a lot of stress, or that there's a lot of pressure on you so you've put up walls to protect yourself. Each circle you've drawn protects the one inside it. And, by drawing them, you're trying to keep things under control.

yin yang, divided circles

Your mandala might not look *exactly* like the Chinese symbol, but it's cut in half somehow, either horizontally or vertically. Or one side has lots of crazy designs and the other side is kind of empty. You are the kind of person who likes to bring opposites together. You struggle between being idealistic (what looks good on paper) and practical (reality-based). Like you could have a total crush on the captain of the baseball team because he has a hot body, but maybe he loves hunting and you're a member of PETA. Is he *really* the right person for you? Eventually you could figure it out and go totally one way or the other. But sometimes people actually *like* to stay in that limbo place. It gives them energy to be in a constant struggle, and it feeds their emotional fire!

5-point stars, plus signs

These are all about how you're having a great relationship—with *yourself!* Yes, you're really focused on you, but not in a negative, self-centered way. You're feeling confident and skilled at school, in your personal life, or at work, and you are a natural-born leader. You're totally in control because you feel like an authority on something.

spirals

This design signifies a lot of positive energy and movement—you're on your way somewhere new! This journey is not necessarily literal (although it *could* be)—it might be an inner journey. Spirals also signify that you have a lot of trust or confidence in what you're doing—so when making decisions on this journey, go with your gut.

filled in

This one depends on color, so here are possible very general meanings for how you might be feeling if you shaded it in:

Black = lonely
Red = passionate
Blue = introspective
Orange = ambitious
Purple = mournful
Brown = insecure
White = spiritual
Yellow = energetic

squares

The strongest trait for this image is that you are very stable, solid, and secure—especially in who you are (good for you!). You like the people in your life to be consistent too. You're a good judge of character, and you value people who are stable and authentic—in other words, not big phonies! You also highly regard integrity.

upside-down triangles, crosses

These symbols signify an ending of some kind, and an understanding that you're about to experience a time of searching or even loss (sadly, maybe the death of someone). These symbols also have obvious religious or spiritual connotations (the cross *is* a cross after all) because people find comfort in religion when they feel loss. In this state of flux, you may enter a period of sadness. It's normal—we all have to go through mourning sometimes to help us appreciate when things are *good*. You are trying to regroup and are searching for ways to renew yourself. Are you also finding yourself searching for the meaning of life? That's natural, too. There's a religious saying, "Let go, let God." That's fitting here, because you're just trying to trust whatever you believe in.

triangles, flowers

The symbols themselves tell a lot; a flower blossoms, a pyramid points to the sky. You're about to grow emotionally, or you're on the verge of something big happening. It's also possible that you just recovered from a loss, and all of a sudden, you're ready to come out of your sadness. But most important—life is changing for the better. Yes!

shattered, lots of lines

If your circle is broken up, has no pattern, or is split into fragments, you could be feeling chaotic or confused. Maybe the world doesn't make sense right now. There *is* one other meaning to this, however. Your picture could mean that you're intensely creative and you *like* to take chaos and put it in order. True artists *thrive* on confusion.

askatoosa

CosmoGIRL!'s editor answers your most agonizing questions.

spring break-down

Q "I'm 16 and my boyfriend is 18. We've been going out for a year and he asked me to go away with him for spring break. I would love to—and I totally trust him—but my parents won't allow it. Help!"
—Michelle, 16, Madison, WI

A This is hard because I really understand that you feel like your boyfriend is great and completely trustworthy. And who *wouldn't* want to go on spring break with her boyfriend? So I know this is not what you want to hear, but…I totally agree with your parents. I know, I know—*boo!* But hear me out: I've actually been in your shoes. My first boyfriend was older than me (four years to be exact), and when he took fun trips, I always wanted to go, but my mom would *never* let me. I always thought it was because she didn't trust him—which was so frustrating because he was a respectable, super-smart guy. But now that I'm older, I realize that it *wasn't* really about him. It was more about being away from home around people who are all pretty young (as in, no parents). Stuff just *happens* in those situations—especially if there's drinking, drugs, or partying—even if you're not looking for it. Like, this girl I knew in high school went away for spring break with a bunch of friends (no adults), and there was a lot of…um, fun. She'd been drinking more than she ever had, went outside alone, and passed out. She was discovered dead the next day from alcohol poisoning. I bet you're thinking, That would never happen to *me*. But do you think *she* actually thought it could happen to *her*?

Once you've lived on your own (like college) and shown your parents that you *can* handle all kinds of situations, they'll eventually loosen up. Until then, if you decide to pass on a party because you know people there will be doing drugs or something, *tell* them. Show them that, *yes*, you've been soaking up their good morals all these years. I don't doubt that you and your guy are mature and responsible, but in the end, your parents just want their girl to be safe. Can you blame them?

No, you are *not* going to Cancun with my bikini!

SADD situation

Q "I got into this accident driving under the influence of pot—a dumb mistake I'm sorry for. Now rumors are flying at school. I want to ignore them, but I also want to help people not make my mistake. What should I do?"
—Kendra, 17, Centralia, WA

A As awful as it must've been, that accident may have saved your life. The tough love side of me is glad that those rumors are flying because they'll remind you why you need to stay away from drugs. (I'm being preachy—so sue me.) Always remember your parents' faces when you had to tell them—and when they got the bill for the damage. And when the rumormongers look at you, remember how close you came to hurting someone—or yourself! I'm glad you realize your mistake. I just hope you *remember* it. *This* time you lucked out. Unsolicited sermon over.

Okay, now on to the *real* reason you wrote. It's great that you want to help prevent other people from making the same mistake. I think you should go for it. It won't be easy: You'll have to relive that heinous moment over and over. But Kendra, you may also save lives. *You* got off easy, but others haven't and *won't*. I don't need to tell you about all the lives that are lost due to drugs and drug-related accidents. So here's what you need to do. Contact SADD, Students Against Destructive Decisions (**www.saddonline.com**). You could either get involved in a local chapter or start your own. This will give you a forum to begin talking to other teens about this topic. And then just get *out* there. Be honest. Be open. If you're the type (like me and a lot of other people) who gets quiet in front of people you don't know, you'll have to put that shyness aside. What you have to share with other teens is as important as it gets, so turn this mishap into something you can be really proud of. Obviously, everyone makes mistakes, but it's the smart and brave people who learn and grow from them. Good luck!

"Show them you've been soaking up all their good morals all these years."

ILLUSTRATION: FRANK MONTAGNA; EXPERTS: LINDA CARTER PH.D., DIRECTOR OF FAMILY STUDIES PROGRAM AT THE NYU CHILD STUDY CENTER (SPRING BREAK-DOWN); RACHEL WACHS, M.S.W., LONG ISLAND–BASED SOCIAL WORKER (SADD SITUATION).

CG! LINK Do you desperately need advice about something that's going on in your life? E-mail Atoosa at atoosa@cosmogirl.com.

Finally, This Dermatologists' Acne Treatment That Makes Blemishes Disappear, Leaves Your Skin Softer and Smoother!

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AFTER

BEFORE

Nichole Mauricio, Age 17, Wooddale, IL

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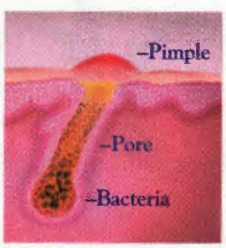

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howtodeal...

when parents lose their jobs

You may feel scared and helpless, but you're more in control than you realize.

BY LIBBY BURROUGHS

You've sensed the tension in your house for a few days. You heard your mom raising her voice late at night, and your father's been pretty distracted, like he's not quite in the room even though he *is*. Then one night they approach you and say they have got something to tell you. All the economic stuff that's been happening since September 11 has hit closer to home than they thought. Your father lost his job. (Of course, it could be your mother who's out of work, but to keep it simple, stick with this example.)

At first, it feels like you've been punched in the stomach. *What?* Then the worries wash over you: Will he *ever* find a new job? Will I have to go to community college instead of the school I had my heart set on? Can we even afford *that?* As the days go by, you go from being outraged at your dad's company for being so cruel, to being rattled about money (do we *have* any?), to feeling really anxious.

Don't panic. You might not know when the next paycheck will arrive, but that doesn't mean you're powerless. There are things you *can* do to help yourself (and your family) cope.

know the facts

Your family is not alone. The economy had been close to a recession since January 2001. The terrorist attacks made it worse. Last October, unemployment rose to its highest level in a single month in 21 years—5.4 percent.

As horrible and scary as a job loss can be, your dad *will* rebound: The average job search takes only two to six months, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. And there are programs that exist to help out during that time. Like, your dad can file for unemployment insurance, which pays people a part of their old salary while they're looking for a new job. Many laid-off workers also get a severance package, which is sort of the employer's way of saying, "We know this is a raw deal, so we're going to pay you your regular salary a little longer while you look for a new job." (Some people get a few weeks' severance; some get a few months'. Health care benefits are often included too.) And if your dad had a good job with a comfortable salary, he could end up making just as much or *more* in his next job. (Think about it: If Walt Disney hadn't been fired by a newspaper editor who said that he didn't have good ideas, he might have never built his empire!)

don't think failure

You might be angry at your father, wondering in the back of your mind what he did to make them lay him off. The

ILLUSTRATION: PETER STEMMLER; EXPERTS: SUE SHELLENBARGER, AUTHOR OF *WORK AND FAMILY*, BALLANTINE BOOKS; JILL JUKES, AUTHOR OF *SURVIVING YOUR PARTNER'S JOB LOSS*, NATIONAL PRESS BOOKS; DEE L. SHEPHERD-LOOK, PH.D., CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY; RICHARD RYAN, PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER; LINDA CARPENTER, PH.D., PORTLAND, OR.

answer is, probably nothing. People lose their jobs for all kinds of reasons, and a lot of the time it has very little to do with job performance. In a bad economy like this one, where consumers aren't spending and company profits are down, that's even *more* true. Many companies are going out of business since they can't make ends meet. Others are laying people off in a struggle to cut costs to stay afloat. So please don't blame your father for his job loss—it's not like he *purposely* went to work at a place that wasn't going to be able to pay him.

talk to your parents

Before you do things like try to save on the water bill by limiting yourself to 60-second showers, find out where your family actually *stands.* Every family's financial situation is different, so the only way to really know what's up with yours—and how you can realistically help—is to ask. You may feel funny bringing up the subject if your parents haven't mentioned it to you first, but it's important to let them know that you're affected by the situation too, and that you're trying to grasp how serious it is. But when you *do* approach them, keep in mind that they are experiencing a roller coaster of emotions as well—anger, rejection, depression, even embarrassment ("What will we tell our *friends?*"). Or even weirder, they might be acting as if nothing at all happened.

Even in good times, conversations about money can be tricky (maybe you experienced this the last time you asked for an increase in allowance). Your parents may be as uncomfortable about this conversation as you are, so pick a time when they seem pretty relaxed and a place where you all feel comfortable, like after dinner in the den. Start by saying, "I know things might be tight right now, and I'm concerned. Can we talk about ways I could cut back or help out?" If they seem annoyed or clam up, it's not that you're asking the wrong question. They're irritated because they're anxious about the same thing as you and feel ashamed that you even have to *ask* them that question in the first place. Chances are they're not even aware of their tone, so try asking if they're angry at you; they'll tell you that it's not you, it's the situation.

Your parents also probably feel awful to put you through this, and if they're not talking to you about it, they might think they're sparing you. In that case, you should try telling them that you're just as worried about *them* as they are about *you.* If they seem like they *really* don't want to discuss it, say, "I understand if today's not the day, but I *would* like to talk about it soon. It would help me feel better—especially if I could help." And then leave the ball in their court.

do your part

You might feel like you have to take care of your parents, but you don't. Your father's job loss does *not* mean you have to drop out of school and take on a full-time job at the Quikie Mart. But what they really will appreciate is for you to try your best not to *add* to their stress. Little things like keeping up with your schoolwork and making curfew can be a huge help. And remember, the more your father can focus on getting a new job, the sooner this will all be over, so offer to babysit for your brother while he's out job hunting; take polite phone messages, in case it's a potential employer calling; keep track of how you spend your money, and make a budget that includes only what you need. Then look for ways to save on the extras, like getting a job at your favorite store so you can get an employee discount for new clothes. Or, if you're headed to college, talk to your college counselor about financial aid, scholarships, and eligibility for student loans. Even if your parents *insist* that you don't need to help, just knowing that you're willing to pitch in will be worth more than a whole year's pay to them right now.

"Try not to focus on blame, and don't let your fears overwhelm you."

how you dealt

"My dad lost his job, and it was hard because we had to cut back a lot on our spending. We even had to move out of our house and move into my aunt's because we couldn't pay our mortgage after a while. But then my dad found a new job and after about two months, we moved back into our old house."
—Alyssa, 16, Toronto, ON

"My mom had to have surgery, and when she was ready to go back to work, they fired her. I had to cook for everyone, help clean the house, and take care of my mom. But that's okay. She took care of me for all these years, so this was my way of saying thanks."
—Amber, 18, Fresno, CA

"My dad lost his job recently. It's been tough, but my brother and sister and I started a car-wash business to help out. We raised about $40 and used the money to buy groceries."
—Corrine, 14, Maine, NY

"I was a sophomore in high school when the factory both my parents worked at (for 30 years!) closed down. It was tough, because my parents had to find new jobs, and the [unemployment] checks they received barely covered our bills. That's why it was so important for me to go to college. Anything can happen in life, and the more educated I am, the better I'll bounce back."
—Lisa, 19, Green Bay, WI

the bottom line...

It's scary when your family's stability is suddenly and unexpectedly shaken up. What's worse, neither you nor your parents had any say in the matter. It's okay to feel a little sorry for yourself and to worry about if you can still buy things like new shoes. But try not to focus on blame, and don't let your fears overwhelm you. Use this opportunity to show your parents how *mature* you are. Ask questions, offer help, and think creatively about how to get what you *can't* do without. And when life gets back to normal, you and your parents will not only have a stronger relationship, but you'll have a special confidence in yourself; the kind that only comes from facing uncertainty and fear—and overcoming it.

CG! LINK How do you deal with life's traumas? Fill us in at cosmogirl.com/howtodeal.

coolroom

"You can tell a lot about a person by their living area," says Dominique. "But my room is an exception. Nothing says 'Dominique.'" So Mark Montano used some of her favorite colors and borrowed rectangle, bean, and boomerang shapes from the 1950s to turn her room into a retro lounge area. **1.** Blue (Benjamin Moore, #2048-50) and bud green (#2033-50) walls. **2.** Boomerang construction paper cutouts with gold stripes and stars. **3.** A huge 7-by-3-foot pillowcase sewn on three sides, stuffed with pillow stuffing, then sewn shut to create a giant floor pillow. **4.** Bed pillows in cool shapes. When the room was done, Dominique was *so* excited, she was ready to run out and buy a poodle skirt! *Fortunately,* we were able to talk her out of it.

BEFORE

blue-topia

At a lumberyard, ask for a half sheet of ½-inch-thick plywood (about $20). Cut out one 2½-by-5-foot bean shape and two 14-by-14-inch squares. For the legs, cut a big U-shape from each square. Then use 3 L-brackets (at your hardware store, $1 per pair) to attach the curve part of each U to the bean shape. Paint it all blue, let it dry, and stand it up.

tinker joy

Bet you never thought you'd play with Tinkertoys again! But they fit perfectly in this retro room. Get a set (about $25 at any toy store—or maybe even for free in your grandmother's attic!) and start building your own one-of-a-kind sculpture. Use all of the colors and your creative juices to construct your own masterpiece!

mobile-ize

Open 7 cans of coffee (*Hello,* Juan Valdez!) and sand off the sharp edges with sandpaper. Spray-paint 4 of the lids blue and 3 orange. When they're dry, use a hammer and nail to make one small hole at the edge of each one. Unwind 3 coat hangers and intertwine them together (see picture, at right). Bend the wire up an inch at each end and hang the coffee lids from them. Screw a hook into the ceiling and hang.

the great wall

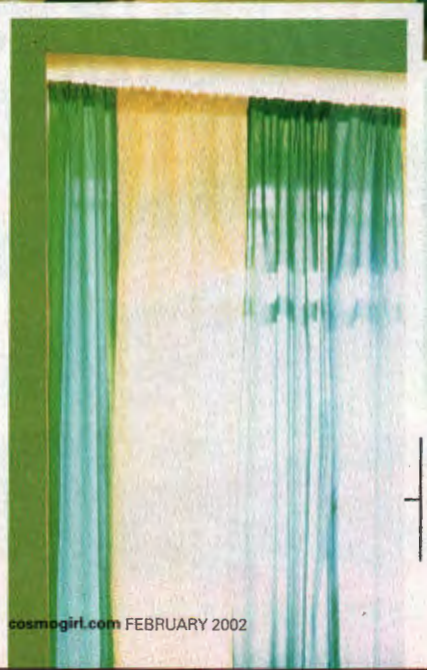
Cover one side of an 18-by-18-inch piece of ¼-inch plywood with batting (fabric store, $4 a yard). Stretch a 20-by-20 inch piece of green cotton material over it and staple the excess to the back of the wood. Stick 5 thumbtacks in an X on the front.

TRIA GIOVAN.

flash back

Style guru Mark Montano added a little '50s-lounge style to 16-year-old Dominique's space. By Alison Stebbins

AFTER
Mark also used some cool Umbra furniture to bring out the retro feel of the room: Light blue Oh Chair, $45, www.umbra.com, orange Luna Table, $23, www.umbra.com, and silver Station Clock, $60, 800-387-5122.



I think I can

Empty and wash out all those coffee cans you opened up for the mobile and then spray-paint 2 of them yellow, 2 green, and 2 blue. Drill a screw through the bottom of the inside of the can to secure it to the wall. Drill the other cans around it in a circle. Store CDs, books, or whatever!

curtain-ly!

Get 2 yards of green, yellow, and blue satiny material (about $5 a yard at a fabric store) and cut each piece into two 15-inch-by-6-foot pieces. Lay them flat on the floor, alternating colors, and sew them together along the long sides. At the top, fold it over an inch and sew, leaving a tunnel for the curtain rod.

do you want a cool room?

Of course you do! (Who *doesn't?*) Just send a photo of you in your room and tell us in 150 words or less why it needs a facelift. Send the photo and your note to CosmoGIRL! Cool Room, P.O. Box 1746, Sandusky, OH 44870. P.S. You can find out more info about Mark Montano's clothing line at **markmontano.com**.

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"Your regrets aren't what you did, but what you *didn't* do. So I take every opportunity."
—Cameron Diaz

"Nothing matters while you scream. You're completely unaffected. You ain't nothing but yourself, nothing but truth."
—Macy Gray

"If I create a song, then I have a replica outside me of what I'm hearing inside, and it evens out the pressure."
—Björk

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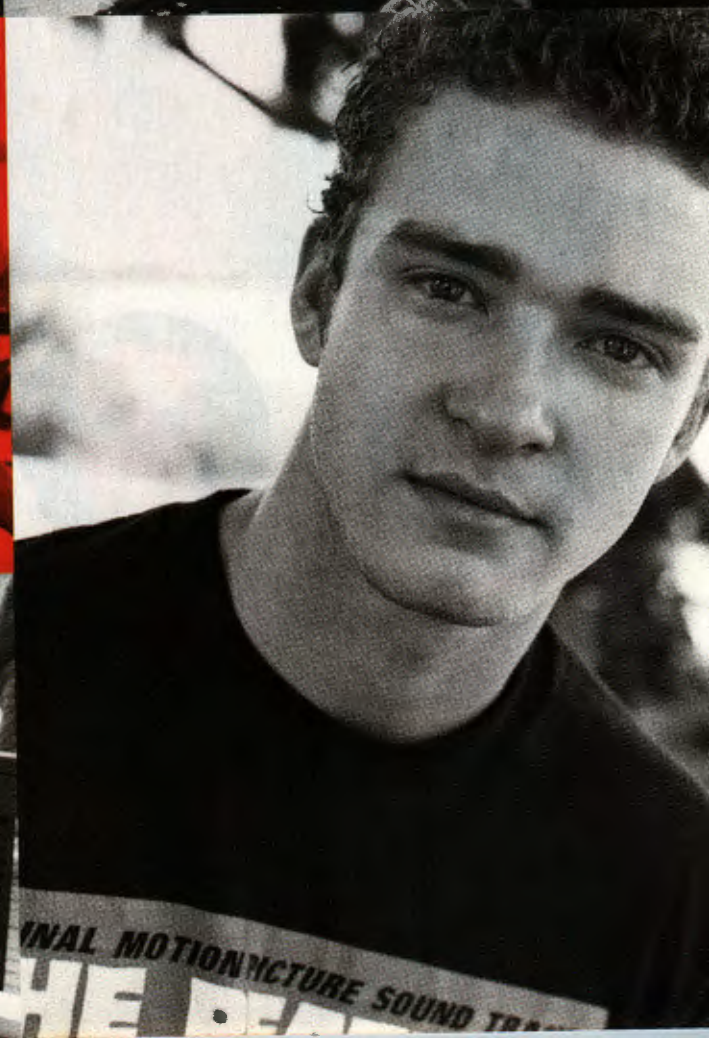
ASS BUGGY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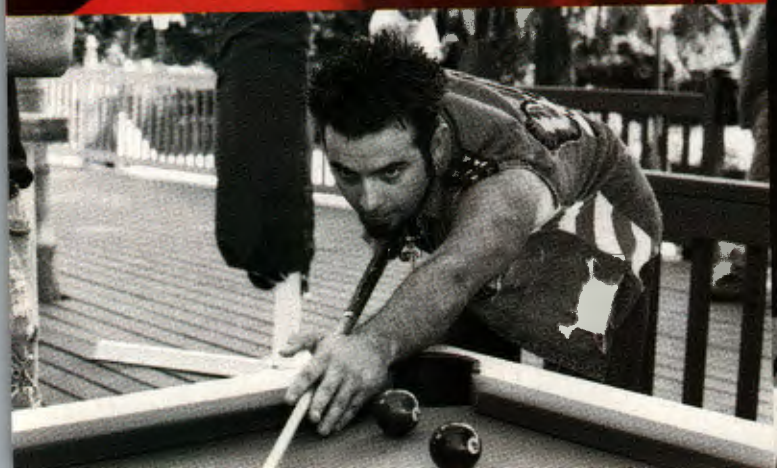


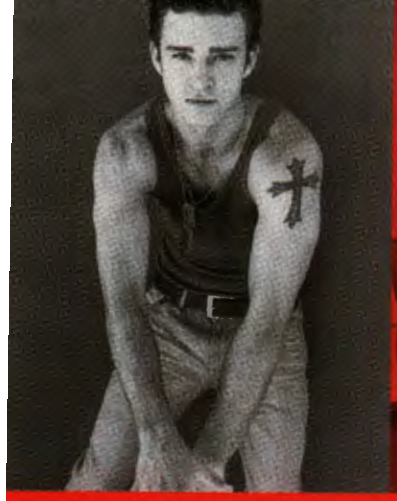
band of brothers

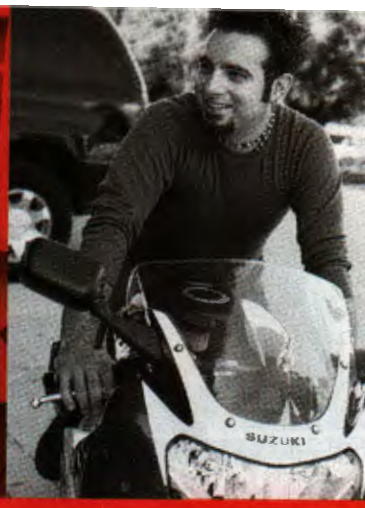
New, more serious times have just made 'N Sync tighter than ever. By Elizabeth Kuster Photographs by Mark Liddell

"Where's Chris?"
"Is J.C. still in the bathroom?"
"Ugh, Justin ran off again."

At the 'N Sync photo shoot on an October morning, we're *trying* to get all of the guys in one place at one time. But we're at their manager Johnny Wright's house, which sits on a private lake in Orlando, and there are a lot of...distractions. Like outside, there's a sound system that blasts Top 40 hits to every inch of the "compound," so you never miss your favorite songs while swimming, Jet Skiing, practicing putting, or shooting some hoops. Inside, there's an arcade with games like Foosball and Ms. Pac Man (rumor has it, Johnny "requests" you pay a quarter even though all the video games are rigged to be free) and a one-lane bowling alley. Oh, and for those who care, shoes of all sizes *are* available.

So after J.C., Lance, Joey, Justin, and Chris show up (yes, it's the order in which they appeared—Chris says nobody called to wake him up), they're scattered all over the house playing. Justin's run off to swing his new golf club, J.C. is wandering around singing Enrique Iglesias songs ("If I





'N Sync at ease: If you don't know which one is which by now, we just don't know what to say!

could be your hero, baby!"), and Joey is hanging out by the bowling alley with his baby girl, Brianna, who has huge blue eyes and two pigtails on top of her head (FYI: Lance is her godfather). And, when we *finally* get them all together for an outside shot, it starts raining, prompting the guys to burst into a hilarious rendition of the cheesy '70s song "Raindrops Keep Fallin'on My Head" (hilarious because they don't know the words). Then when "Family Affair" by Mary J. Blige comes on, they take a quick break to dance (exactly) like her.

soul searching

But of course the chaos at the compound is nothing compared to the real chaos going on in the world around us. Barely a month has passed since the terrorist attacks, and although 'N Sync *seem* to be the same happy-go-lucky guys we see on MTV all the time, they're still reeling. "I never thought my generation would see something this horrific," says Justin. "The day of the attacks, my girlfriend [Britney] called me in tears. I told her that everybody was confused about why people would want to do this. For a good two or three weeks after that, I was just scared."

Just like it has for the rest of us, September 11 has profoundly changed the 'N Sync guys. "Before the attacks, I used to be a hermit," says J.C. "After it happened, I fell into a funky depression. But then I said, 'Okay, let's turn it around.' Since then I've made a conscious effort to go out and see people, instead of just calling them—be a little more social. I used to be more into being by myself."

"I used to have a really bad temper," Chris says. "You realize it's not worth it to get upset over the fact that someone is, like, sitting in a more comfortable chair than you." (That's good to know—because at this moment, his chair isn't exactly the Barcalounger Gemini!)

Not to be morbid, but they're also now seriously thinking about their own mortality. "Tomorrow's not promised to you at all," says Lance. "On the first Sunday of every month, I have a family reunion now. Everyone wants to see each other more often, instead of just once a year at Christmas." All of the guys also recently got new life insurance policies (which explains the sweet-but-confused-looking, white-haired doctor sitting by the vending machines, patiently waiting for Justin to go pee in a cup—new policies require physicals). And while Chris says he now has to take medication before he gets on flights to deal with his fear, Justin trusts fate. "I don't put a judgment on where I am right now, or where I'm going to be, or where I was," says Justin. "I have this idea in my head that right before everyone dies, they get to a higher thought. If they get there while they're on this earth, then their souls become subject to a higher power, and they have no need to be here anymore. That's just the positive way that I look at death."

faith vs. fame

If Justin's talk of a "higher power" surprises you, it shouldn't: The guys have always had very strong faith in God. "We've always prayed together before every show," says J.C. What's surprising, though, is that they're now pretty reluctant to talk about their spirituality. "In every interview I've done it's like, 'Oh, you're a *really* spiritual person!'" Justin says in a mock flippant voice. "They want to know about my spirituality, and it's like, 'That's *mine!*'"

"You have to understand that, to us, in our spirituality," says Chris, "the hardest thing in this world is to just do something for the goodness of it. Just do it because that's something between you and God. Like, 'I'm doing this for you, God. Not for this *person,* not everyone who's *watching,* but for *You.*' If we give to a charity or go visit kids in a hospital, everybody wants to televise it. Which is a good thing for the charity, because it gives them publicity, but it's hard for us to really get intimate and be like, 'I swear to you that I'm doing it out of sincerity.' And the camera guy is like, 'Hug that little boy again.' Everything we do is scrutinized. When we want that time to be alone in our beliefs, people are right there going, 'Are they religious? Are they good kids?'"

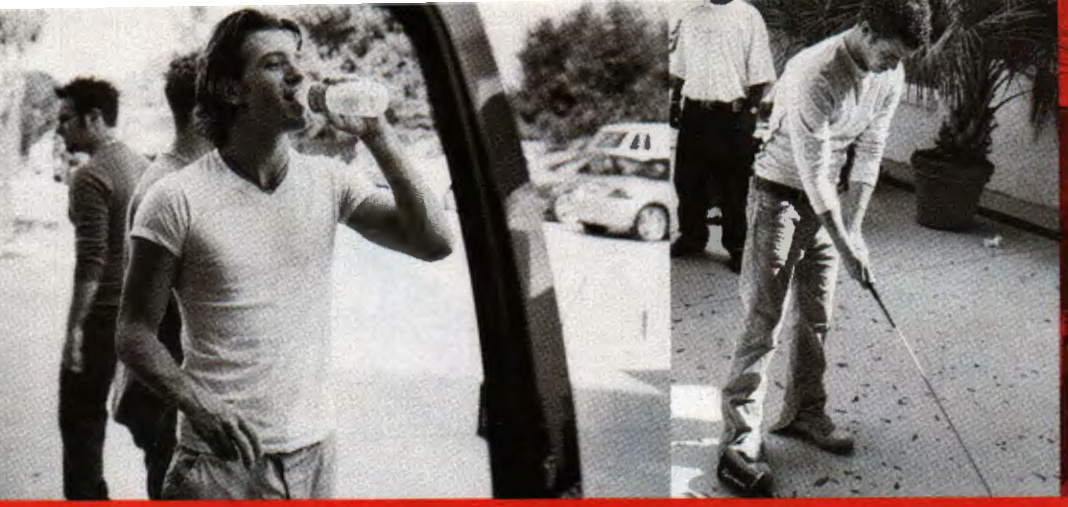
a few good men

Yeah, they're definitely good "kids," although they're more like men—if there's a draft, Justin, J.C., Lance, and Joey could be called. So, would they serve? "My whole family has been in war—World War II, Vietnam," says Lance. "I have huge patriotism. If I was called today, I would totally go. I would be a great soldier. I can outsmart the enemy. Most people get too antsy when they play paintball or laser tag, but I can stand there for an hour without moving. I always wait for them to come to me. I also know how to shoot a gun. I'm a good shot!" Realizing this isn't the most P.C. thing in the world, he explains: "Is it bad to say I go hunting? Yes, I'm a hunter. I'm from the South. I go up to the Mississippi Delta where my friend has a huge plantation and I stay in a log cabin with my family. I usually bird hunt. Pheasant, duck, turkey. I only hunt things that are overpopulated."

Joey breaks in: "I can't shoot a gun, but I can run really

MARK LIDDELL; FASHION DIRECTOR: JACQUELINE AZRIA-PALOMBO; STYLIST: HAYLEY HILL; HAIR: VALERIA ANGELINO; GROOMING: ELAN BONGIORNO FOR CELESTINE LA.

CG! LINK Record the guys' voices on your answering machine, then send your friends our exclusive 'N Sync e-card at cosmogirl.com



fast. I can run away!" We all laugh, and then he gets serious. "Actually, I don't *know* what I'm capable of, because I'm not in that situation yet. But if there comes a time, I guess I'll have to learn real quickly." Chris thinks he'd rise to the challenge too. "In times of war, average guys do extraordinary things," he says. "I used to say it about us: It's strange how we're five average guys, but sometimes when we're together onstage, we almost float on air. Something kicks in. That's when great things happen. That's when wars are won—when people feel that energy working on them."

"With Chris and me, honor is a big deal," adds Justin. "And when honor kicks in, you always make the right decision." The only one of them opposed to enlisting is J.C. "I'd be a terrible soldier. Ugh! I don't believe in fighting. It's against my religion—I'm Mennonite. But if somebody steps on me, I'm going to defend myself. If I have to."

a melting pot

That's what's cool about 'N Sync—they're kind of like a mini-America: a strong group made up of individuals who have their own opinions and unique skills. "Our differences bring us together," says Justin. "And we capitalize on that." But there *are* three important things that all five guys have in common: (1) They love their country. As Joey put it, "We're so thankful for where we come from. There are places in the world where you aren't even allowed to chew gum!" [He's referring to Singapore.] (2) They love each other. "I've been quoted as saying that girls come second, and I don't think there's anything wrong with that," says J.C. "I'm married to my best friends. People say it's my work, but my work involves four of the closest people in my entire life." And (3) they're all taking President Bush's advice and getting back to normal. "We had a time where nobody felt right doing anything," Chris says, "because we didn't want to take away from the memory of the people who died. But now we're ready to move on. Never forget, but move on."

And that's exactly what they're all doing. As the day winds down, the guys' conversations turn to more lighthearted stuff—Chris talks about his golf game (he and Justin are totally addicted), Justin plans Britney's 20th birthday party, and J.C. goes back and forth about buying a new boat. "If there's anything good to come out of what happened," Lance says, "lately everyone is just doing good. For the last 10 years, it was so cool to be bad. Now it's cool to be good."

★ "Celebrity" Superlatives Oh, yeah—just in time for awards season...

CG!: Best sound effect?
JUSTIN: Joey.
LANCE: Joey!
CHRIS: Joey is a walking Foley stage—that's what they use to make sound effects in the movies.
JOEY: You know, doors creaking open: *Wrrrreeeeee*. And closing: *Errrrrpfffffttt*.
CHRIS: We didn't say they were *good* sound effects.

CG!: Did you ever make an inappropriate sound effect at the wrong time?
JOEY: Nope.
CHRIS [to Joey]: Yeah, you *farted* at the wrong time, didn't you! "'Hey, I'm Chris.' 'I'm Lance.' 'I'm *pfffftt*.' 'And we're 'N Sync!'" [Everyone laughs.]
JOEY: That's my a, ladies and gentleman.**

CG!: Best mental picture of the year?
LANCE: Janet Jackson naked.
CG!: You saw Janet Jackson naked?
LANCE: No.
J.C.: But it's a mental picture!
LANCE: I can see it.

CG!: No. 1 "Gee, I'm glad I have a girlfriend" moment?
CHRIS: Wait. When did we determine that it's *good* to have a girlfriend? I'm trying to think of a good time. We just get suckered into it.
JUSTIN: There are a lot of, like, really scandalous girls in my past, so I'm not glad I have a girlfriend—because God knows it's easier to live for one person—but I am glad that I have *mine*, because she's made my life wonderful. I appreciate her every day. Every moment we get alone. There's nothing in my life that's been less rehearsed than her.
LANCE: J.C. dated the president's daughter.
J.C.: I did not!
CG!: Scoop!

CG! [to J.C.]: You're the only one without a girlfriend right now, right?
J.C.: Yeah. Dang! The tables have turned! I used to be the only one *with* a girlfriend!
CHRIS: It won't take long for him at all. He's very clingy. Tell girls he needs a girlfriend!
CG!: Okay, we're on it! (Ladies, start your engines....)

win it! 6 lucky readers will win a tank top autographed by the 'N Sync guys. Go to cosmogirl.com/winit or page 130 for details.

La boheme

Other girls may dream of romance. You? You wear it. Live the dream, baby!
Photographs by Coliena Rentmeester

curtain call
The mailman's looking *cute* today! Blue paisley top, ANXIETY CAFE, $28, Macy's; Purple pants, Star City, $36, 212-819-9600; Pink crystal necklace, Berry Jewelry, $18, 212-354-5014; Rectangle ring, YOCHI DESIGN, $25, 888-666-6420; Stone ring, SuperStar Casting, $52, www.buysuperstar.com; Studded belt, $15, and Hole-y belt, $15, both Apex Designs, 212-268-3535.

dream weaver

This sweater isn't going to be done *any* time soon. Top, Stephen Hardy for Squeeze, $42, at Burdines, burdines.com; Shorts, Polo Jean Co. RALPH LAUREN, $39, 888-POLO-JEANS; Scarf (around head), R Accessory Co., $13, at DebShops; 800-DEBSHOPS; Rings, top to bottom: Pave ring, R Accessory Co., $8, at Hot Topic, 800-892-957-4; Rectangle ring, blue j..., $25, girlshop.com; Crown ring, SuperStar Casting, $46, www.buysuperstar.com; Tie belt, Apex Designs, $15, 212-268-3535; Wrap belt, EXPRESS, $38, expressfashion.com.

hare raiser Ooh, lookie! If I bend my pinkie, I get the Sci-Fi channel! Lace tunic top, One Clothing, $28, ewindsor.com; Lacy layered skirt, Free People, $58, at Annie Gogglyn, 210-930-7770; Beaded choker, 'ZAD, $20, 800-477-2216; Cross necklace, rachel, $22, Nordstrom; Legwarmers, Reaction Kenneth Cole, $12, 800-KEN-COLE; Brown leather boots, modaspana, $126, 888-388-9978.

field of dreams

Just trying to figure out how to convince them to let me keep these clothes. Rust-colored top, Angie, $32, at Star of India, 800-486-7321; Lace turtleneck (underneath), necessary objects by Ady Gluck-Frankel, $52, 212-334-9888; Suede and denim jeans, Life by Karl Kani, $94, 213-626-6076; "Bag" necklace, Marlyn Schiff at Drozak Studio, $24, at Serendipity, 888-443-8712; Cross pendant necklace, EXPRESS, $18, expressfashion.com; Tassle necklace, Kool Konnections, $10, www.koolkonnections.com; Belt, Fossil, $48, fossil.com; Moccasin boots, Minnetonka Moccasin Company, $32, 800-969-6690.

smear campaign Oh my goodness, I *never* would have believed it, but it's true: The Loch Ness monster *is* attracted to creamy peanut butter. Striped off-the-shoulder sheer pink top, TO THE MAX!, $28, at Burdines, burdines.com; Metal cuff, Ke-ri at Drozak Studio, $25, 212-685-3030.

trail blazer

When you step on beetles (oops!), it sounds oddly like Rice Krispies. Suede coat with faux fur, B. Lucid, $120, at Delia's, delias.com; Crocheted halter, GUESS?, $48, 800-39-GUESS; Embroidered jeans, zana-di, $42, www.zanadi.com; Cross necklace, R Accessory Co., $10, at DebShops, 800-DEBSHOPS; Suede belt, Kenneth Cole New York, $38, 800-KEN-COLE.

Fashion Director: Jacqueline Azria-Palombo
Hair: Roberto DiCuia for Trafik
Makeup: Walter Obal for Make Up For Ever at Bradley Curry
Prop Stylist: Eyal Baruch for Mark Edward
Illustrations: Deanne Cheuk

soil mate Sorry, but they just love it when I sing them a little Barry Manilow. Poufy cropped shirt, baby phat, $78 at Phat Farm NYC, babyphat.com; Faded denim skirt, Todd Oldham Jeans, $43, 866-ENJOY-TOJ; Wide leather belt with chain, GUESS? Belts, $38, 800-39-GUESS.

GET YOUR EX BACK

By Felicity Porter

I was very surprised when CosmoGIRL! asked me to write an article about how to get your ex-boyfriend back. I mean, I'm not the sort of person to give that kind of advice—you know, the kind you find in your average fashion magazine. I guess CosmoGIRL! is unusual, because when I told the editors I couldn't recommend that anyone change her look to get a guy, they supported me. So here's my version of "How to Get Him Back," which is really about deciding whether it's *worth* getting him back at all. I hope it helps.

ASK YOURSELF WHY

Let's start by doing some serious thinking about this question. Be honest. Do any of these answers sound like you?

1. "It's better to be with someone than to be alone."
2. "I'll never find anyone else to go out with."
3. "I'll never find anyone better than him."
4. "I don't know who I am without him."
5. "I talk to him when I'm upset. Who do I talk to *now*?"

From what I've seen in college, these are the most common reasons we want to cling to guys and they all come from a place of fear—a fear of moving on, a fear of an uncertain future. (A legit reason to want him back comes from a place of confidence—when you have thoughts like, We have so much in common. We really *get* and respect each other.) But it's never a good thing to hold on to someone because you're afraid of letting go. You're holding yourself back if you do—depriving yourself of the possibility of meeting someone who's better for you. If you can just get yourself past the pain of separation, you'll see what I mean. You'll be a stronger person, and I guarantee that one day soon (okay, maybe not, like, this week, but believe me, it *will* happen), you'll look back and laugh that you were ever so afraid.

DON'T GO CHANGING

The first time Ben and I got back together, it was a disaster. He had broken up with me at the beginning of sophomore year. Here's what happened: We were just starting out and everything seemed great until one day at work I showed him pictures of our road trip cross-country. He suddenly got this funny look on his face and went completely silent.

time sensitive

"I don't want to get pregnant but I'm afraid to go to a clinic for birth control. When is the safest time to have sex?"

—Ana, 17

There *is* no safe time to have unprotected sexual intercourse. Many women mistakenly believe that they can only get pregnant a couple of days each month, when they ovulate (produce an egg that can be fertilized by a sperm). But it's not that simple. First, teens' menstrual cycles are erratic—so forget about trying to figure out which day you're ovulating. Then you have to consider how long sperm and the egg can survive in your body: Sperm can survive in your body for up to three days and your egg can live for a few days after ovulation. So there's a weeklong span in which you can get pregnant (not one day). And since it's impossible to predict exactly when you ovulate, you can never tell for sure when that week will fall. If you are sexually active, the best way to avoid pregnancy (and prevent STDs) is to use protection *every* time you have sex. And while it's normal to be nervous about buying birth control and going to a clinic (find one through **plannedparenthood.org**), there's no reason to be afraid or embarrassed. Professionals there talk with teens about all *kinds* of health issues, and many provide free or low-cost contraception. One thing to think about, though: If you're afraid to go to a clinic, it might be a sign you're not ready for the responsibility of a sexual relationship. That's okay. But be sure that when you *do* have sex, you're able to take the steps that will keep you and your partner safe from pregnancy—*and* STDs (go to **teenwire.com** for birth control options). But even if you practice safe sex, accidents do happen. Remember that there is only one way to *guarantee* that you won't get pregnant: Don't have sex.

touchy issue

"I masturbate a lot. Is that really normal?"

—Sarah, 16

Your hormones kick in between the ages of 9 and 17. That prompts a lot of sexual energy. Masturbation (stimulating yourself sexually) is one way that some people release that energy.

Strange that something believed to be so common is rarely talked about, huh? But the M-word makes some people feel shameful or guilty, maybe because they've been taught that touching their body in a pleasurable way is "dirty," or even that it causes blindness. Others think only "desperate" people (meaning those not having sex) masturbate. But lots of sexually active people do it. The bottom line is that masturbation is a private thing that you shouldn't feel ashamed of doing *or* not doing.

It *can* be a problem if you feel that you masturbate too often (like, you do it *instead* of doing things you used to enjoy). Go to **teenwire.com** to learn more.

kiss of death

"I read somewhere that you can get HIV from 'bodily fluids.' Can you get it from French kissing?"

—Callie, 17

You *can* get HIV from bodily fluids. It's transmitted when blood, semen (including preseminal fluids which are released before a guy ejaculates), vaginal fluid, saliva, or breast milk from an infected person enters your body. French kissing is considered "low risk," though saliva does have low levels of HIV, which can enter an uninfected person's body if she has any open cuts or sores in her mouth.

You're smart to be concerned about HIV—about half of all new HIV infections are among people ages 15 to 25 (go to **www.ashastd.org/nah/tty.html** to learn more). Before becoming sexually active with anyone, ask about his or her health status and sexual history. If they've been sexually active but haven't had an HIV-test, or they won't even *talk* about it, hold off on getting physical. Your safety comes first!

last-ditch effort

"How does the morning-after pill work?"

—Ashley, 16

If a woman has unprotected intercourse (like, if the condom broke or if she's been raped), she can take the "morning-after pill" to prevent pregnancy. But let's be clear: The morning-after pill (also known as Emergency Contraception, or E.C.) is not necessarily a Get Out of Pregnancy Free card. It gives you a last chance to avoid getting pregnant, but one in four women who take it will *still* get pregnant, and it may keep you in bed for the entire day because it can make you feel like you have the flu, or make you throw up.

E.C. pills contain high doses of estrogen and progesterone, *or* just progesterone, which can stop or delay ovulation. That way, there's no egg for the sperm to fertilize (this is *not* an abortion). If there is an already-fertilized egg, E.C. may prevent it from attaching to the uterine wall and growing.

For E.C. to work, you'll need to get and fill a prescription for it within 72 hours of having unprotected sex (go to **not-2-late.com** for info on E.C. brands and doctors in your area). Then you have to take two doses 12 hours apart.

But instead of finding yourself in need of E.C., protect yourself with two kinds of birth control—a condom (to help prevent STDs) and one other method. Check out **www.iwannaknow.org** for all the contraception options out there.

CG! LINK Got a health Q? Ask it here: cosmogirl.com/healthkick.

you oughta know

All the info you need to treat your body right. By Esther Crain

Angelina doesn't seem to mind....

GET A ROOM!

You and your friends are walking down the hall at school and spot a couple making out against a row of lockers. NEWS FLASH! It's the girls in your group—not the guys—who are more likely to be skeeved out by this blatant public display of affection. In a new study, 90 percent of girls said they had a problem seeing couples groping and kissing in public, while only 65 percent of the guys did. Okay, so if guys are so cool with other people's PDAs, why can't we get them to kiss us in front of their *friends?*

thong wrongs

Thongs definitely prevent the dreaded panty-line, but they can also cause skin irritations, yeast infections, and urinary-tract infections. Here are four ways to stay panty-line and infection-free.

CHOOSE NATURAL FIBERS: Cotton or 50 percent cotton blends allow air to circulate to your vagina, preventing bacteria and yeast build up.

BUY THE RIGHT FIT: If it's too-tight, the string of the thong will rub against the skin of your labia, helping bacteria and yeast to breed.

GO FOR MORE COVERAGE WHERE IT COUNTS: Wider panels of fabric covering your crotch are less irritating than skinny ones. Log on to **mastersonmd.com** to purchase panties in gyno-approved styles.

TAKE THONG TIME-OUTS: Switch to bikini panties when you're at home.

ASK DR. MARKS

"I'm allergic to latex condoms, and I've heard that lambskin condoms aren't reliable. What do I do?" —Kayla, 15, Lafayette, IN

Used **correctly,** lambskin condoms **prevent** pregnancy 98 percent of the time, but they're totally *ineffective* against sexually transmitted diseases. If you are allergic to latex, your best **defense** is polyurethane—a type of material that **stops** sperm *and* the transmission of STDs. (There's a brand called Avanti you can find at most drugstores.) But remember, for 100 percent **safe** sex protection, hold off on having intercourse altogether. **—Andrea Marks, M.D., NYC specialist in adolescent medicine**

are you shy?

Instead of letting your shyness control *you,* try controlling *it.* A new study shows that volunteering even for a few hours a week will help steer your focus toward other people and their personalities so you don't have to be concerned with your own for a while! Soon you'll notice yourself making more eye contact with people in the halls and maybe even talking to that cute guy who sits next to you in English. No rush, though! It'll come naturally— just take it one day at a time.

Have rosy cheeks? Save on blush!

DIDJA KNOW?

It's a scientific fact: Teens who get less than seven hours of sleep don't do as well in school as those who get more.

THONG WRONGS / TOM SCHIERLITZ; SITTINGS EDITOR: JOANNA RODGER; HAIR AND MAKEUP: SUZANNE KATZ FOR KRAMER + KRAMER. JEANS BY LEVI'S JEANS. TANK BY DOLLHOUSE INTIMATES. EXPERT: LISA MASTERSON, M.D. OB/GYN SPECIALIZING IN ADOLESCENT GYNECOLOGY AT CEDAR-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER IN L.A. OTHER CREDITS, SEE PAGE 130.

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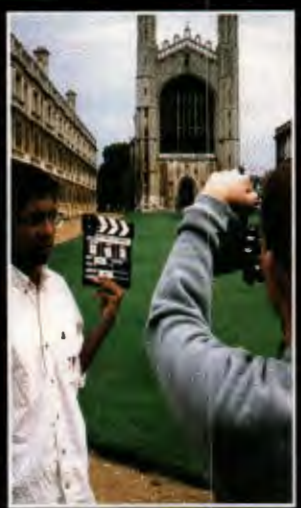

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girltalk

Come tell us what you're thinking.

Somebody get this poor girl some Claritin!

rant!

Sarah's pretty peeved!

NAME: Sarah
AGE: 16
HOMETOWN: Dover Township, NJ

"I hate it when people stereotype. When I hear Jewish jokes, I say, 'I'm Jewish, and I'm not like that!' They'll say, 'You don't *look* Jewish'—like that's supposed to be a *compliment!*"

"I WISH I'D KNOWN IN HIGH SCHOOL..."

nice guys do exist

In high school, my **ideal** guy had two characteristics: muscles (to protect me) and some social etiquette (no, mashed **potatoes** are *not* a finger food!). Since then, I've found a different type of guy: the Genuinely Nice Guy. I'm not talking the **doormat** guy or the so-overly-helpful-that-he's-annoying guy. A GNG buys you lunch when you're broke from those **post-breakup** advice calls to Miss Cleo.

I learned about the GNG in college, where I met Jeff—a quiet guy who liked my **cats.** We hung out a lot, but for me, the sparks weren't there, and I went on dating *my* type of guys. One night, as I ranted about my dismal **love** life, the usually **quiet** Jeff screamed, "Why do you continue to date jerks when there are nice guys all around?" I froze, certain I had GUILTY stamped on my forehead. That's when it hit me: An overlooked GNG can fade into the **background.**

Yup, once I realized I was being superficial, I ended up having a wonderful relationship with Jeff and learned that the initial **rush** you feel when a "perfect" guy likes you means nothing when it comes to having a *meaningful* bond. Sincerity, honesty, and **true friendship** are much more deeply attractive than popularity or biceps. If only my cats could have told me that a little bit earlier!

By Angela Nissel, author of* The Broke Diaries *(Random House, 2001)

Being a CosmoGIRL! means...

It's sexy, *and* doubles as a power tool!

"...kicking the world into shape while wearing five-inch platform heels. It's being true to yourself—and having a blast doing it."

—Mary, 17, Douglasville, GA

NICE GUYS DO EXIST / MARC ANDREW. BEING A COSMOGIRL! / STILL LIFE: CHRIS BARTLETT.

CG! LINK Tell us what being a CosmoGIRL! means to you at cosmogirl.com/beingacosmogirl, or just vent at cosmogirl.com/rant.

secrets

You can confess here—but don't let it happen again!

poo fighters

"I was at my friend's house for a sleepover, and we decided to take her new puppy to her bedroom to play. I was walking behind everyone else, carrying the puppy, and he actually *pooped* in my hands. But instead of just cleaning it up or throwing it away, I flicked it off onto the wall and the poop just *stuck* there. I didn't say anything, but I'm sure her mom found it later."

cell shock

"One day I was driving to the store and I was trying to dial a number on my cell phone at the same time—and I totally hit a mailbox. It took off my side mirror and scratched the side of my car. I couldn't say anything to my parents because then they wouldn't let me drive anymore, so I just drove away. After I went to the store, I came out and I called my mom crying saying that some car must have hit my car while I was in the store. I was totally crying and making a scene in the parking lot. My mom told me to walk around for a little while and calm down. When I got home she looked at my car and told me that she would talk to my dad. They still haven't found out what *really* happened. But every day I'm scared that someone will say something and they will find out!"

confession corner

ALYSSA MILANO
(Charmed)

"I used to sleep nude—until the earthquake."

mother of a lie

"I couldn't find this really expensive necklace from Tiffany's that I had gotten for my sweet 16, and my mom and I were looking for it. I was almost positive that I had given it to her to keep so that I wouldn't lose it. We turned my room completely upside *down* trying to find it and it was nowhere. I finally looked in my dresser, and what should be in there but my *necklace!* Well, I didn't want to be wrong, so I put it in my pocket, and said, 'Mom, I'm gonna look in your bathroom *one* more time, just to make sure it's not there.' So I walked up there and sat down for a while to pass the time and make it seem like I was looking for the necklace. I walked back down to my room, and said, 'Guess what I found, Mom?' She felt so stupid, and I feel kind of guilty, but I'm not going to let up *now!*"

clothes encounter

"One time I was spending the night at my used-to-be best friend's house for revenge because I had heard that she was spreading rumors about me. Well, I told her that I had to use the bathroom, and I went and put a condom in the pocket of one of her dirty shirts that was in her hamper. When her mom found it that night, I had to go home because she got in so much trouble. She *still* doesn't know it was me!"

under-where?

"I was going to spend the night at a friend's house one day after school, so I took all my overnight stuff to school in my basketball bag. Well, I got really cold during second period and decided to get my sweatshirt out of my bag. I had totally forgotten that I had rolled up a pair of my underwear inside the sweatshirt! Then during third period, people were having fun kicking someone's underwear around the floor. I just pretended they weren't *mine.*"

You stinky little cretin!

call girl

"My brother was having a huge party, and he's not the type to listen to me. (He's 15, I'm 17.) He invited too many people over and our house was really packed. I was worried that something would get trashed, so I called the cops on my own brother's party!"

cheer-litter

"I was at cheerleading practice and our new white uniforms were in and they had cost more than $900! During practice, I went to the lobby and bought a Dr Pepper from the vending machine. After I drank some, I couldn't find a trash can so I threw the half-full can in some random plastic bag. Then I went back and finished practice. When we were done, our coaches told us someone had ruined the new uniforms that were in a bag in the lobby."

animal instinct

"I had some friends over to watch movies and I had to fart really bad. But my friends are really polite so I tried to hold it in. There was a really scary part coming up so when they screamed, I farted—loud. They didn't hear it, but they could *smell* it. I just blamed it on the cat."

ILLUSTRATION: KIRSTEN ULVE; MILANO: FITZROY BARRETT/GLOBE PHOTOS.

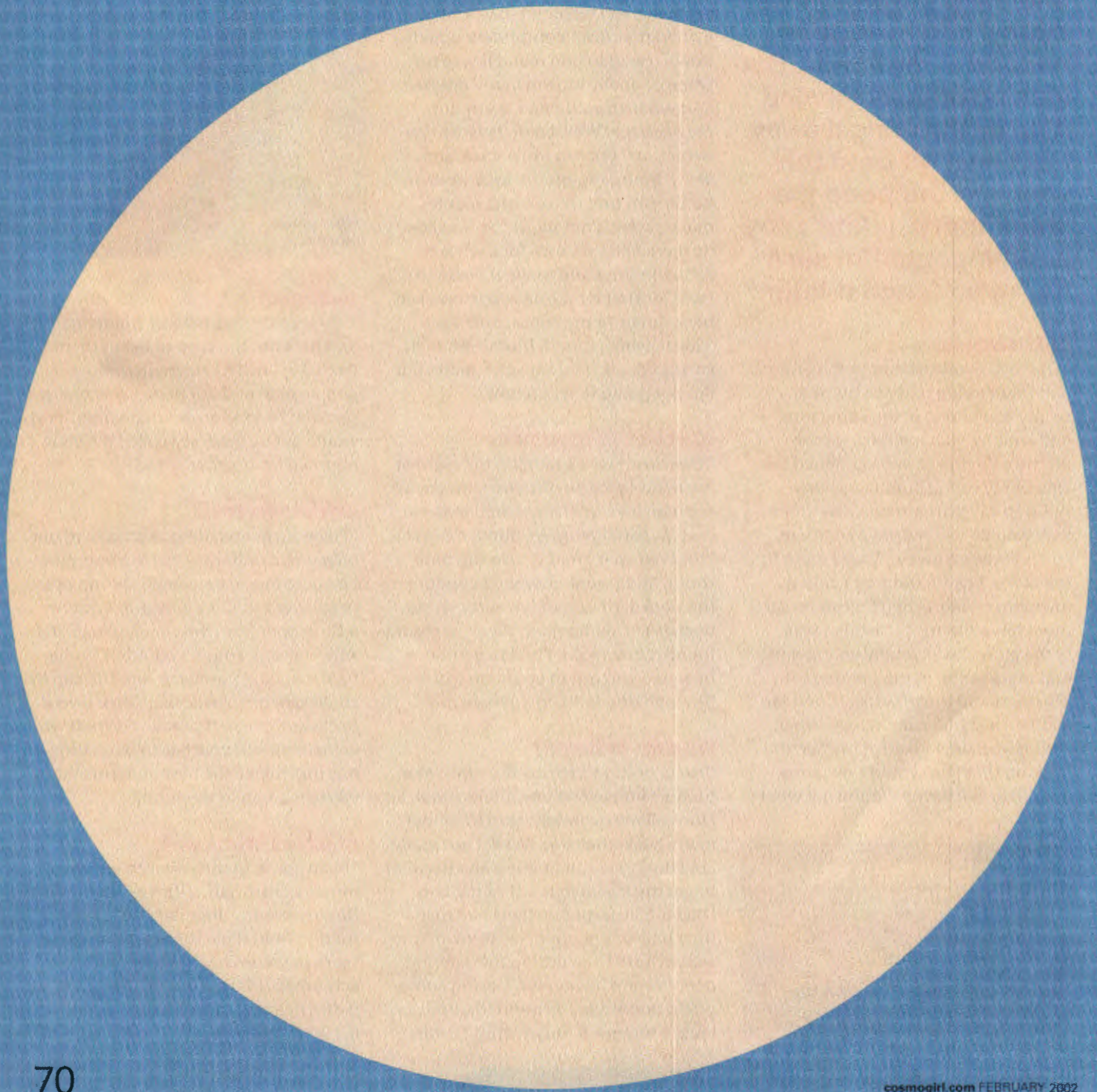
CG! LINK Got a secret you need to tell *someone?* Tell us at cosmogirl.com/secrets.

timeout

Motivation for your mind and inspiration for your soul. By Cathy Malchiodi

circle of life

The round space below is called a *mandala,* which is Sanskrit for *center* or *magic circle.* About 100 years ago, a psychiatrist named Carl Jung figured out that drawing in a circle actually reveals a lot about a person's personality. Doing it on a regular basis, in a journal or a diary, is a natural stress-reducer. It can also help you find emotional balance in life and relationships. To try out the mandala, draw any shapes or designs inside the circle below. When you're done, read the analysis on the next page **(no peeking before then!)**. It can help you solve a problem or reach a goal. Now draw!



CATHY MALCHIODI IS THE AUTHOR OF *THE ART THERAPY SOURCEBOOK,* LOWELL HOUSE.

Their matching hair color is just one reason Felicity and Ben are a perfect couple.

I had to ask him what was wrong—twice—before he finally said, "I'm just not sure if this is what I want." And that was it. We were broken up! I really couldn't believe that he wanted to be apart. So (and I'm embarrassed to admit this), I actually tried some tips from this list called "Ten Steps to Winning Him Back." I wore this very tight, low-cut red dress and, like, five-inch heels to a party at the loft. And I brought this poor freshman guy along to make him jealous. Finally, I told Ben what I knew he'd like to hear: We could date casually, with no expectations—which is *totally* not me.

At first it seemed to work. Ben kissed me when I said that. When he stood me up on our next date, I pretended it wasn't a big deal. But then I started worrying—if I continued to change myself to be with him, at what point would I no longer be *me?* Finally, I just broke down and told him that I couldn't be casual. I was an emotional person and I couldn't and *wouldn't* hide my feelings. So we broke up again, which was *doubly* painful. I should have listened to Ben when he said he wanted to break up the first time and spared myself the humiliation of pretending to be something I was not. Compromising yourself just to be with some guy never works. I learned that it just leads to a lack of confidence and shows that you don't value yourself.

THE HEALTHY WAY TO GET HIM BACK

At the end of sophomore year Ben and I got back together and that time it was for the right reasons. Ben was finally ready to love me just as I was—with my emotions, seriousness, and all. How did this happen? How did I get him back? Instead of being angry, I respected Ben's feelings by accepting the fact that he wasn't ready for a serious relationship. And I was honest about my own feelings. I told him that it was sad, because I knew he wanted something from me, but wasn't strong enough to have it. I was patient with him. I told him one day he would wake up and realize this, but it would probably be too late. Then we worked side by side for months at Dean & DeLuca, where I was able to be his friend without having any other expectations. (This was hard but neither of us could afford to quit.) Most importantly, instead of clinging to what we had, I moved on with my life. I devoted more time to my friends, repairing my relationships with Noel and Julie. I put more energy into my schoolwork and got involved in new extracurricular activities like volunteering at the school health clinic. I was busy, and after a couple of months, surprisingly happy. I think when Ben saw my mood shift and heard about my dedication to the clinic, he developed a new respect for me and realized what he had given up. He even volunteered at the clinic himself—I think just to be near me. Then, when I started seeing this guy Greg, Ben showed up while we were on a date to proclaim that he wanted me back.

I guess what I'm saying is that there *is* no "Ten Step" program to getting a guy back or even getting over him. Ben and I have certainly had our ups and downs (we still do!). But the one thing I've learned from what we've been through is that if you want him back for the *right* reasons, you have to do it in a way that is honest and truly reflects who you are. It sounds strange, and it's so hard to do, but you have to move on with your life, and trust that if he *really* is right for you, he will come back. If he doesn't, it wasn't meant to be. And if that happens, believe this: The right guy *is* out there—and when you meet him, you'll be a stronger person and in a better place for a lasting relationship.

SPECIAL THANKS TO JULIE BLUMBERG, *FELICITY* STORY EDITOR.

comeback queens

When life spirals downward, it's up to *you*, CosmoGIRL!, to get back up. Here's how. By Barbara Stepko and Deborah Baer

Has the Sledgehammer of Life ever pounded you so hard that you just want to crawl into a hole—for a *century?* Like, say you've dreamed of Harvard from the time you could say "biochemical engineer," but when the fateful day arrives...thin envelope. Or you get royally dumped. By your Dream Guy. In front of the whole school. *On your birthday.* Well, here's the story: Girls like you—girls with guts—will always have to jump more hurdles in life because you're constantly putting yourself out there, going after the great things (great jobs, great guys, a great *life*), and that's never risk-free. But when you hit a setback, whether it's physical or emotional, the first thing you need to say to yourself is this: This is a test. And know that tests like these are what weed out the girls who go places from the ones who, well, don't. Now the ball's in your court—are you ready to ace *your* test? Good! Sharpen up that hot pink pencil and start here.

take control

When you're in the throes of a major setback, it's tempting to blame it on bad luck or even the people around you. But blaming makes you feel even *less* in control. Look at it this way: The coach who cut you from the team is not *making* you upset, you are letting yourself *get* upset because of your situation. Instead of wasting precious energy on dwelling and complaining about how things "should" have gone differently, take control. How? Every time you go into blame mode (or feel woe-is-me-ish, which is just a sneaky way of blaming yourself), ask yourself: What can I do right now to improve my situation? Even if it's little baby steps (like "Today, I'll run 10 laps"), they'll all meld together to become that one giant step closer to being back on your track to greatness. P.S. Think of it as the makings of a great story for when CosmoGIRL! sends a reporter to your house to profile you someday.

use your community

Has someone close to you ever had to make a comeback? Did you look at her and think, "Wow, she blew out her knee at the big game...she's really a *loser.*" Of course you didn't! Because you love her, and you know how talented she is. And that's exactly how the people in your life feel about *you.* You aren't defined by what happened to you last week. You are an ambitious, take-the-world-by-storm kind of girl. And the people around you know this and are dying to help you succeed, if only they knew what to do. So help *them* help *you.* Make a list of everyone who cares about you: parents, friends, sisters, favorite teachers—anyone. Next to each name, write how they can help you ("introduce me to new job leads" or "let me vent for a half hour so I can get all this anger out of my system"). Your support team will give you good advice and remind you that no matter how you feel at that moment, you—you glittering CosmoGIRL!—are a winner.

let yourself learn

It's the hardest step but also the most important one: figuring out the lesson that life is trying to teach you. To do it, write down your situation in simple language, like it's a children's story. When you're done, ask yourself, What's the moral of this story? *That's* your lesson. It might be "Okay, I can't trust her with my secrets," or it might be "I need to learn to handle criticism." Whatever it is, write it in your journal and the next time you see that Sledgehammer looming, something magical will happen—your lesson will flash before your eyes (really!). You'll choose a different, more effective way to handle the situation—leaving that hammer stuck pounding dust.

the bottom line...

Look at Oprah. She might seem like she's got the Midas touch, but in 1998, she branched into moviemaking with *Beloved,* and the film *totally* flopped. Oprah didn't say, "Okay, I give up. I'll just stick to my talk show." No way. She came back, and in 2000, created *O, The Oprah Magazine*—now considered the most successful launch in magazine history. What's the moral of *this* story? Winners aren't winners because they're not losers; they're winners because they've taken losing scenarios, learned from them, and come back stronger and smarter than before. We'll introduce you to three amazing CosmoGIRL!s who have been there (and back!). The rest is up to you....

GEORGE HOLZ/CORBIS OUTLINE.

Monica Lewinsky, handbag designer

Four years ago, former White House intern Monica Lewinsky became a household name when her very private (and embarrassing) affair with President Bill Clinton became public. Paparazzi constantly stalked her, and she became a daily punch line for stand-up comics. But instead of hiding, Monica dared to shift gears and establish herself as a smart, talented businesswoman.

"When I first found out about the investigation, on January 16, 1998, I didn't think things could get much worse. Then, a week or two later, the paparazzi were like a pack of wolves charging at me as if I were a piece of meat. It was terrifying, bewildering, and incredibly surreal.

"I couldn't believe the cruel things that were said about me in public—and I felt powerless to do anything about it. The *New York Post* called me Portly Pepperpot, Maureen Dowd of *The New York Times* wrote very nasty columns about me, and Dr. Joyce Brothers said that no man would ever want to bring me home to meet his parents. I felt like there was nothing I could do.

"Then one day, at a restaurant, someone introduced me to a columnist who had been writing really mean things about me. I asked her why—and there was no response. She was too stunned. When you confront someone, if you haven't done anything, it embarrasses them and makes them realize you're human. I was very secluded during the scandal, but once people saw that I was a real human being, things turned around and I was overwhelmed by the outpouring of emotion I received." ➜

Isis Sapp-Grant, social worker

In high school, Isis Sapp-Grant led one of the toughest gangs in her Brooklyn neighborhood. It was the only life she knew—and it landed her right in jail. But when she got out, Isis left gang life behind and created the Blossom Program for Girls, which helps girls get out of gangs.

"Where I come from, there was no bright future. We were dealing with poverty, and we didn't have a lot of opportunities. People were praised for being the best drug dealer or gangsta—going to college or being the best person you could be, seemed unattainable. The gang made us feel powerful and visible when, for the most part, we felt powerless and invisible. When I was 16, I was arrested for assault and robbery. Being locked up in jail, in chains, was a wake-up call. For the first time, I was ashamed—my ancestors came to this country in chains, and I had done the greatest disservice to myself by *allowing* myself to be put in chains. When I got out, I was still on the brink. But then the head of the NYPD's youth gang intelligence unit got me started in my work with gang girls. It's all about learning how to trust other people. The world is much bigger than where you come from—you have to explore it. I learned that anything I wanted out of life, I could make happen. Once I realized that, things starting happening for me. Now I help these girls realize that anything they want can be theirs—*they* can make it happen too."

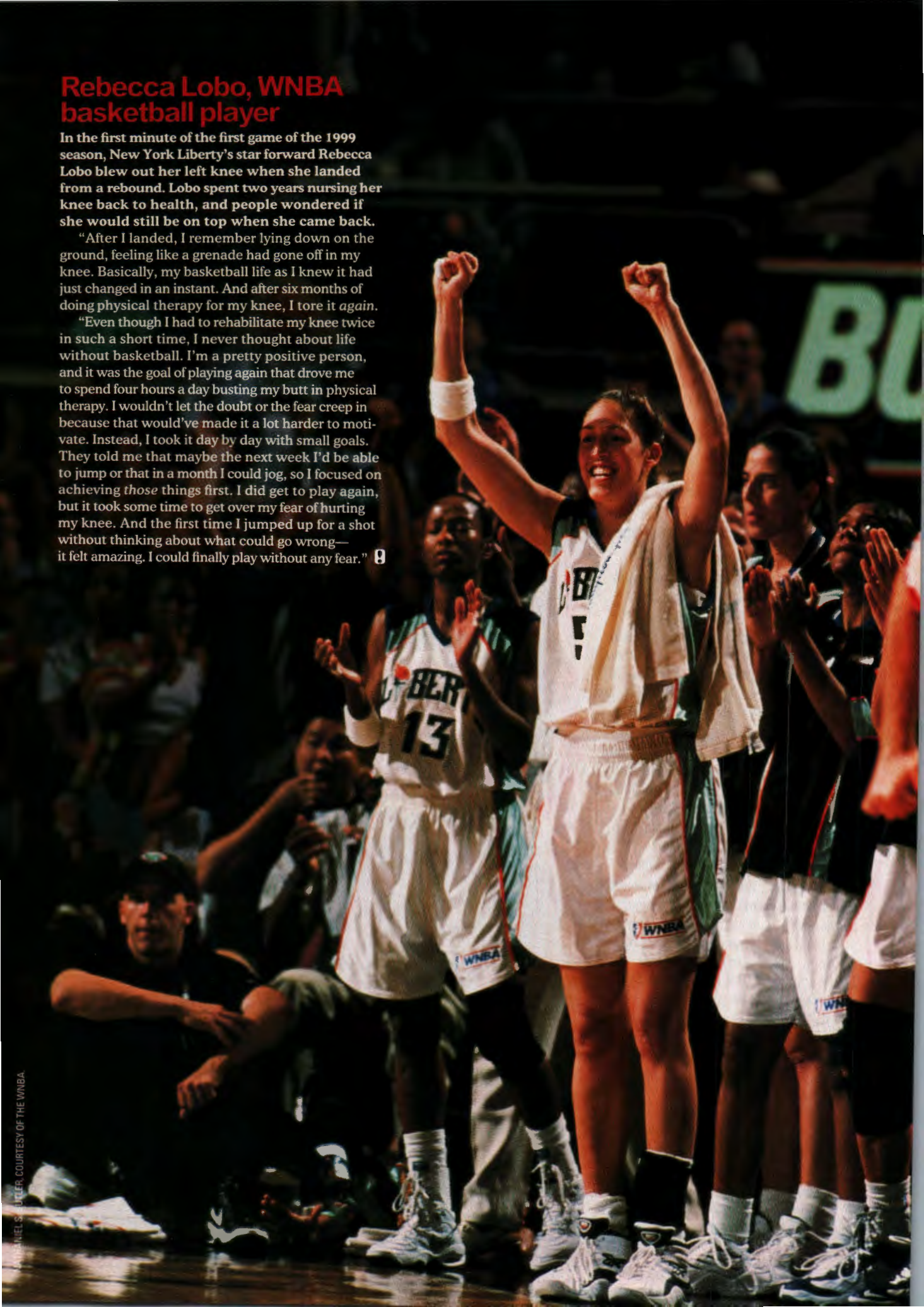
PATRIK ANDERSSON.

Rebecca Lobo, WNBA basketball player

In the first minute of the first game of the 1999 season, New York Liberty's star forward Rebecca Lobo blew out her left knee when she landed from a rebound. Lobo spent two years nursing her knee back to health, and people wondered if she would still be on top when she came back.

"After I landed, I remember lying down on the ground, feeling like a grenade had gone off in my knee. Basically, my basketball life as I knew it had just changed in an instant. And after six months of doing physical therapy for my knee, I tore it *again*.

"Even though I had to rehabilitate my knee twice in such a short time, I never thought about life without basketball. I'm a pretty positive person, and it was the goal of playing again that drove me to spend four hours a day busting my butt in physical therapy. I wouldn't let the doubt or the fear creep in because that would've made it a lot harder to motivate. Instead, I took it day by day with small goals. They told me that maybe the next week I'd be able to jump or that in a month I could jog, so I focused on achieving *those* things first. I did get to play again, but it took some time to get over my fear of hurting my knee. And the first time I jumped up for a shot without thinking about what could go wrong—it felt amazing. I could finally play without any fear." 8



NEL SCHULER, COURTESY OF THE WNBA.

CHEAP TRICKS

Ta-da! CG! and celeb makeup guru Nick Barose unveil three ways to look like a star (for less moolah). By Genevieve Monsma
Still lifes by Roger Cabello

candy girl

We think Reese's gorgeous pink glow is just the right amount of sweet for a date.

1. Tap a makeup sponge in loose powder (try **Cover Girl Professional Loose Powder** in shades from **Light** to **Tawny,** $5, at drugstores) and pat it over your T-zone.
2. Trace your top and bottom lashes with dark brown liner (try **Cover Girl CG Smoothers EyeLiner in Espresso,** $5, at drugstores), inner to outer corner. Then *gently* smudge just the bottom line with a clean cotton swab.
3. Now swipe gold shadow (try **Cover Girl Professional Eye Enhancers in Burnished Gold,** $3, at drugstores) from your upper lash line to your crease. Yes, you're coloring *over* the brown line—but it'll still show through. Then use the tip of a sponge-tip applicator to lightly trace gold over the brown line along your bottom lashes.
4. Use black liner (try **Maybelline Smoked Kohl Eye Liner in Blackest Black,** $7, at drugstores) to trace half of your top lash line, starting above your pupil and stopping at the outer corner.
5. Apply one coat of black mascara to just your top lashes (try **Jane Fan Club in Blackest Curl,** $4, at drugstores).
6. Use a fluffy brush (try **Cover Girl Make-up Masters Powder Brush,** $4, at drugstores) to sweep pink blush (try **Cover Girl Cheekers Blush in Plumberry Glow** for fair to medium skin, or **Wild Raspberry** for darker skin, both $3, at drugstores) over your cheeks' apples. Then squeeze the bristles together and dust their tips in the creases of your eyelids.
7. Slick on rose-y lipstick (try **Maybelline Moisture Whip Lipstick in Roseberry** for fair to medium skin, or **Earthly Mauve** for darker skin, both $7, at drugstores). *So* pretty!

WITHERSPOON: STEVE GRANITZ/WIREIMAGE.COM

Smile, Reese! (Or did *someone* just eat a poppy seed bagel?)

There! Just making sure my retainer's in place!

FUNTADO; ANDREA RENAULT/GLOBE PHOTOS.

Wet 'n' Wild Medium to Dark bronzer
N.Y.C. #922A eye pencil
N.Y.C. #957A lip liner
N.Y.C. Clear & Shiny lip gloss
N.Y.C. Jet Black mascara
Sephora brow brush and comb
Prestige Black liner
N.Y.C. Nude Girl in Town shadow
922A N.Y.C. Eye Liner Pencil
N.Y.C. Liquid Lip Shine
Sephora Professional
Made in France

glam-azon

The only thing hotter than Nelly's red lips and bronze skin? *You*, CosmoGIRL!

1. Get sun-kissed by sweeping bronzer (try **Wet 'n' Wild Bronzer in Fair to Medium** or **Medium to Dark,** $3, at drugstores) over your cheeks, nose, forehead, and chin. Now go over your cheeks again to deepen the color there.

2. Swipe nude shadow over your eyelids, from your lash line to the crease (try **N.Y.C. Eye Cube in Nude Girl in Town,** $2, at drugstores).

3. Pull your eyelid taut with your ring finger, and use your other hand (whichever one you use to write with) to draw a thin line along your upper lash line with black liquid liner (try **Prestige Liquid Eyeliner in Black,** $5, at drugstores). Go back and thicken the line from your pupil to your eye's outer corner, lifting the liner just slightly at the corner.

4. Dot a brown liner (try **N.Y.C. Eye Liner Pencil in #922A,** $1, at drugstores) across your lower lash line, then take a cotton swab and smudge the dots so they form a faint line.

5. Apply two coats of black mascara (try **N.Y.C. Thickening Mascara in Jet Black,** $2, at drugstores) to both your top and bottom lashes. Then brush your brows upward with a mini comb (try **Sephora Professional Brow Brush,** $4, sephora.com) to finish the look.

6. Take a deep red lip liner, trace the outer edge of your lips, then color them in (try **N.Y.C. Lip Liner Pencil in #957A,** $1, at drugstores).

7. Now finger-tap clear gloss over the lip liner (try **N.Y.C. Liquid Lip Shine in Clear & Shiny,** $2, at drugstores). You sexy thing!

sheen queen

Brandy's shimmery nude look says, "*What* makeup? I'm a natural beauty."

1. Use a black liner (try **Cover Girl CG Smoothers EyeLiner in Onyx,** $5, at drugstores) to trace your top lashes, inner to outer corner. Then sharpen the pencil, wipe its tip on a tissue, and trace the inner rim of your lower lashes.

2. Sweep pale peach—almost ivory—shadow (for fair to medium skin) or pale gold shadow (for darker skin) from your lid to brow bone (try **Cover Girl Professional Eye Enhancers 1-Kit in Champagne** for fair to medium skin, $3, at drugstores, or **Jane Eye Zing in Goldie Looks** for darker skin,$4, at drugstores).

3. Dust brown shadow (try **Cover Girl Professional Eye Enhancers 1-Kit in Tapestry Taupe** for fair to medium skin, $3, at drugstores, or **Jane Eye Zing in Browny Points** for darker skin, $4, at drugstores) on your lids, lash line to just below your crease. Now apply the same shadow to the bottom of your brow bone (a little above the crease), inner to outer corner. Finally, go back and smudge with a cotton swab to avoid *stripes.*

4. Apply two coats of black mascara to just your top lashes (**Cover Girl Professional Mascara in Black,** $5, at drugstores).

5. Brush a sheer brownish-pink blush over your cheeks (try **Cover Girl Cheekers in Brick Rose** for fair to medium skin, $3, at drugstores, or **Jane Blushing Cheeks in Blushing Wine** for darker skin, $4, at drugstores).

6. Apply a shimmery bronze lipstick (try **Cover Girl Triple Lipstick in Ginger Tea** for fair to medium skin or **Cover Girl Triple Lipstick in India** for darker skin, both $5, at drugstores).

7. Finger-tap a peachy gloss over your lipstick (try **Jane Shine Language Lip Gloss in Hush,** $4, at drugstores). Divine!

BRANDY: TSUNI/IMAGEDIRECT.

I told you: Only fake smiles until I get a puppy.

CosmoGIRL!

CAREER GUIDE

Finally! How to figure out what to do with your life. By Marty Nemko, Ph.D.

Some people (maybe even your best friend) have always known what their dream job is. Others have an obvious talent that makes them perfect for a certain career. But for most people, deciding what they want to spend their life doing is harder. The key? Find your hidden strengths, and then look for careers where you can use them! Don't freak out if you have no idea where to begin. After reading this, you'll be on your way. Really! *Marty Nemko, Ph.D., is an Oakland, CA, career counselor and radio talk-show host. Find out more about his career strategies at* ***martynemko.com.***

The Fame Game: What's *Their* Secret?

jennifer lopez

oprah winfrey

julia roberts

You've heard so many celebs say it: "I followed my dream and it paid off. *You* can do it too." But before you get started on the road to fame, remember that becoming famous is hard work. If you're up for the challenge, here's what you've got to do.

Be a pest

As the saying goes, the squeaky wheel gets the grease. So if you're willing to be tenacious, your chances of getting noticed by the right people go way up. Of course, that doesn't mean be *obnoxious*. Be polite to everyone, whether it's a record company executive's secretary or a prospective talent agent. That way, people will remember you not only for calling so often but for being nice while you were at it. That will make them more likely to want to help you.

Practice your butt off

Whether you sing, dance, drum, or whatever, videotape yourself doing it, and to hone your skill, ask, "What's good *and* not good about what I'm doing?" Before Britney made it big, she spent 10 years taking dance lessons. That equals hours of *practice*, baby.

Expect to make sacrifices

Before you get rich, you might have to be poor. You may have to choose between buying pea soup for dinner or toilet paper for, well, you know. Think of it this way—Madonna came to New York with *nothing*.

Give yourself a time limit

Don't blindly follow your dream past your mid-20s. If by that point you're not making at least *some* money in your ideal job, pursue another career within that field. (We're not saying you have to be an international sensation, but you don't want to be hitting up Mom and Dad for rent money.) So if the record contract doesn't pan out, try being a record *publicist* or something. Have a Plan B in case the red carpet takes its sweet time rolling out.

CLUE YOURSELF IN!

These four questions may make you say, "Eureka! I know what I'd be *great* at!" If not, they'll still point you toward a few types of careers you just might love. (Use a separate sheet of paper if you need more room for your brilliant answers!)

What do you have a knack for? Are you good at fixing things? Writing expressively? If you don't know, ask your parents, a friend, or a teacher you like.

Write your knack(s) here:

Think of something you've endured in your life. Like, have you been able to succeed in school, despite having dyslexia? Did your dad go blind when he was young? These could point to a career for you—maybe you'd want to work with dyslexic kids or develop a device that will reverse blindness.

Write about a problem you have struggled with:

Are there any tools you really love to use? It could be a computer, a sewing machine, a microscope—even *books* can be considered tools.

Write your favorite tool(s) here:

Is there an unusual subject that you love or talk a lot about? There could be a career related to it. Do you find insects fascinating? Israeli art? (Can't think of anything? Ask someone you trust to help.)

Write your favorite unusual topic here:

LOPEZ: JEFF SLOCUMB/RETNA; WINFREY: BILL DAVILA/RETNA; ROBERTS: GREGG DEGUIRE/CDG/LFI.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY YOKO IKENO

Bringing home the bacon: See you later for the *Sex and the City* marathon, girls!

Get the scoop! To discover some fascinating careers (and Web sites for even more information), check out the category below that sounds like you. Stumped? Ask a friend to help you decide if you're a...

PEOPLE PERSON

The jobs you'd normally think of in this category are teacher, police officer, salesperson, or public relations executive. Here are some more unusual ones.

Child Life Specialist
You help kids who face a long hospital stay by role-playing medical procedures with them so they won't be scared. You also set up tutoring so they don't fall behind in school. **B, AVG: $, TOP: $$, childlife.org**

Casting Director
You pick out actors to play roles in anything from commercials to feature films. **C, AVG: $$, TOP: $$$$, castingsociety.com**

Fund-Raiser
You get wealthy individuals and companies to donate big bucks to keep a nonprofit organization (like the Humane Society) running. Fund-raisers also plan gala (and sometimes star-studded) events in order to boost donations. **B, AVG: $$, TOP: $$$$, nsfre.org**

Management Consultant
You help companies solve problems they can't solve themselves, like how to expand their business into Central America or how to decide what kind of telecommunications would best serve them. **B, AVG: $$$, TOP: $$$$, fisher.osu.edu/fin/jobs/mco**

LANGUAGE LOVER

The first jobs that come to mind? Editor, novelist, or journalist. But these others are just as interesting.

Information Search Specialist
Companies don't have time to plow through the wealth of information available on the Internet and elsewhere to find out what they need. So they hire a research specialist to do it for them. **M, AVG: $$, TOP: $$$, aiip.org**

Ghostwriter
You write the memoir for someone (often a celebrity) who can't write well. Like Barbara Feinman wrote Hillary Clinton's *It Takes a Village*, but since she was a ghostwriter, her name didn't appear on the book's cover. **B, AVG: $$, TOP: $$$$, writersdigest.com**

Political Speech Writer
Writing in a style that's a mix of editorial and advertising, you create inspiring speeches and persuasive campaign material. **M, AVG: $$, TOP: $$$$, pcl.stanford.edu**

Adoption Attorney
Lawyers are masters at interpreting the language of the law to benefit their clients. This type of lawyer helps match a child with adoptive parents. **J.D., AVG: $$$, TOP: $$$$, adoptionattorneys.org**

CREATIVE TYPE

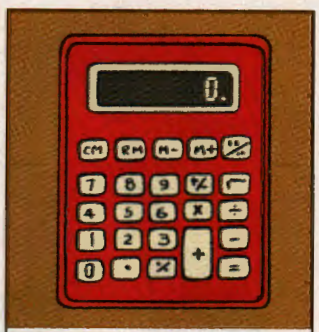
The obvious careers are musician, poet, artist, or actor. Now, how about these very cool options?

Home Stager
When someone wants to sell their home, they often call in these one-day decorators who suggest low-cost improvements (like painting one wall a dramatic color) to make a home look better to potential buyers. **C, AVG: $, TOP: $$$, homestagers.com**

Costume Designer
You study a TV or a movie script, then create or buy clothes appropriate to that time period, whether it's the 17th century or modern day. **C, AVG: $$, TOP: $$$$, www.usitt.org/commissions/cost.html**

Visual Effects Designer
Using your imagination (and a computer), you create cool visual wonders for video games and movies, like making someone transform from a human into a machine and back again. **B, AVG: $$, TOP: $$$$, vfxpro.com**

Museum Curator
You come up with ideas for cool exhibits, then bring together the art or artifacts that bring it to life. You also publicize the exhibit and help raise money for the museum. **M, AVG: $$, TOP: $$$$, aam-us.org**



SCIENCE/MATH JUNKIE

The typical jobs you'd think of? Doctor, computer programmer, or engineer. But maybe you've never considered *these* great careers.

Enologist
As a winemaker, you're choosing different kinds of grapes to create perfect wines, deciding what sort of barrel they should age in, and balancing the acid and sugar content. **B, AVG: $$–$$$, TOP: $$$$, asev.org**

Statistician
You use math to figure out the probability of something. For a pharmaceutical company, you might calculate the chances that a new medicine will cause side effects in patients who take the drug. **M, AVG: $$, TOP: $$$$, amstat.org**

Biomedical Researcher
Want to try to make a medical discovery? In this job you study how cells function, molecule by molecule, and then come up with ways to prevent, treat, and even cure cancer and other diseases. **Ph.D., AVG: $$$, TOP: $$$$, biorap.org/careers.html**

Public Health Official
You're a doctor who creates government policies to make sure all citizens have access to medical care. The Surgeon General is the top dog. **M.D., AVG: $$, TOP: $$$$, apha.org/career**

CAREER KEY

B = Bachelor's degree **M** = Master's degree **Ph.D.** = Doctoral degree **J.D.** = Law school **M.D.** = Medical school
C = College degree or specialty school not *required* but is suggested

AVG: Average income after five years' experience in the field **TOP:** Income of the highest earners in the field
$ = Under $40,000 a year **$$** = $40,000–$69,000 a year **$$$** = $70,000–$99,000 a year **$$$$** = Over $100,000 a year

Call it a day! Now that I'm in charge of this lab, cancer will soon be history.

The Next Big Things

The following fields are on track to boom during the next decade. Interested? Take college courses and get internships—and you could find yourself on the cutting edge of one of these up-and-coming industries.

Homeschooling Two million kids are homeschooled in the United States today, and the number is growing rapidly. Parents will need consultants to help them teach their kids effectively. **To prepare:** You don't need to major in education (although it can't hurt), but take courses in curriculum and child development. **americanhomeschoolassociation.org**

Mass Customization Soon, you'll be able to go to a store's Web site, select an outfit, pick a style and color, and enter your body measurements. Then, a perfectly tailored version will be created just for you and delivered to your door. Mass customization will also be used for sporting gear and modular homes. **To prepare:** Take courses in computer programming and design, or major in industrial design. **mass-customization.com**

Gene Therapy Prospective parents will be able to use gene therapy to prevent their children from being born with predispositions to diseases like cancer and mental illness. **To prepare:** Major in molecular biology or computer science. **asgt.org**

Antiaging Research Nanotechnology (the mechanical manipulation of molecules) will allow us to repair cells and keep us young! **To prepare:** Major in molecular biology, chemistry, or physics. **worldhealth.net**

Online Education As the quality of the Internet is improved, interactive courses will be taught in cyberspace by world-class teachers. People will be needed to adapt traditional courses into a cyber-classroom format. **To prepare:** Take college courses in instructional design. **aace.org**

GET STARTED TODAY!

A plan to put yourself on the fast track.

DO YOUR HOMEWORK

Read articles and books about your career and talk to people in that field. Ask them what you should know about the work, how to train for it (including which college courses to take), and what their least favorite thing is about the job. You want to know the pros *and* cons.

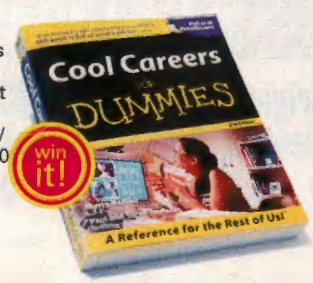
TRY THE JOB ON FOR SIZE

Join any extracurricular activities that can give you job experience. If you can, get part-time work in your field. Or try a related summer program—check out **petersons.com/summerop/select/soxsi.html.** Search the Web for your field's professional association (most have one for networking and other purposes) and see if there are student internships. Be sure to keep in touch with any mentors you meet through these avenues—they could be your link to a future boss at Corner Office, Inc.

BE STRATEGIC

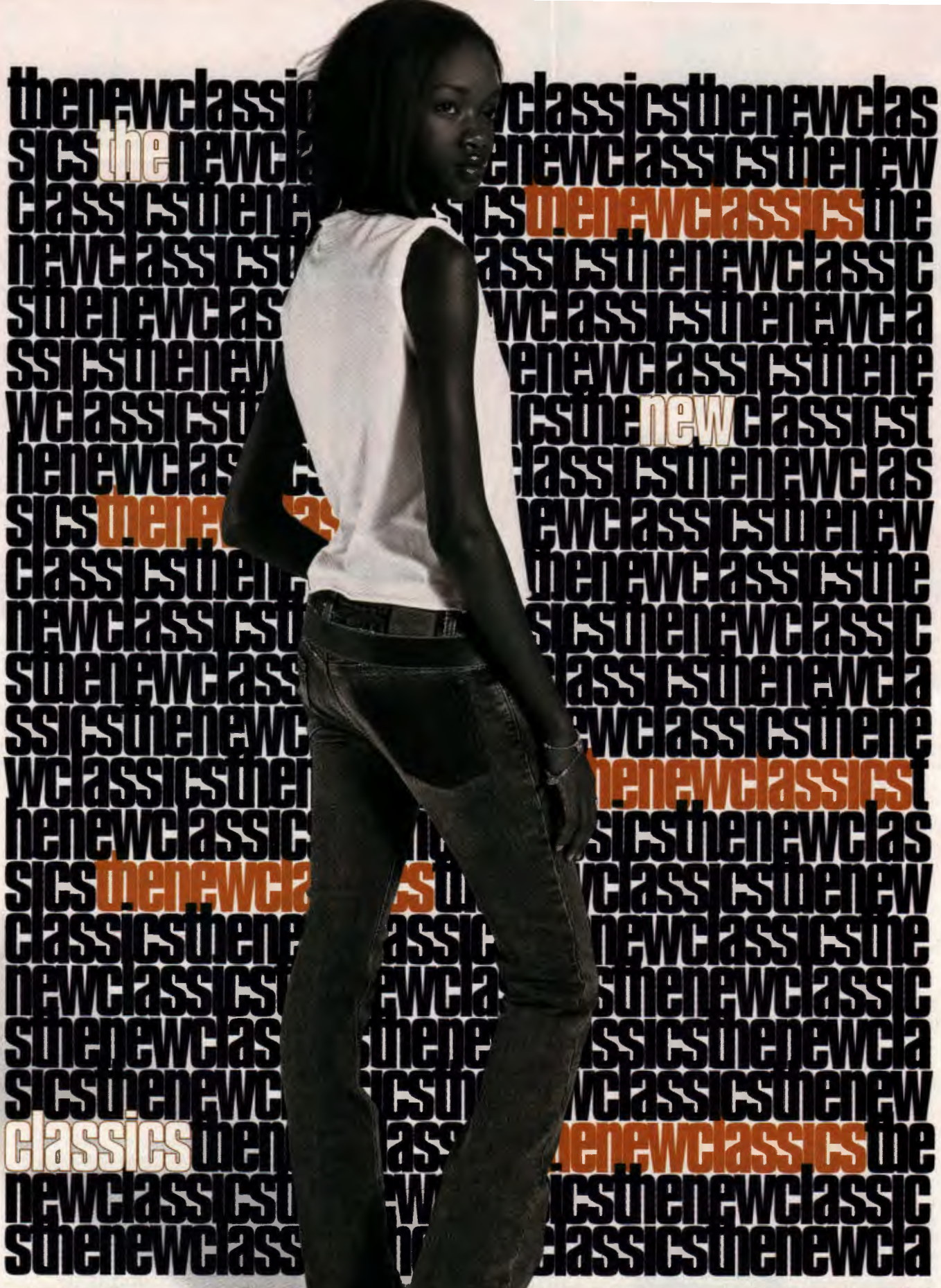
Consider going to college in the town or city you want to end up working. And be sure the school you go to has a strong academic program in your field—that will help you meet the people who will light your career path.

Win it! 20 ambitious CG!s will win a copy of Marty's latest book! Go to cosmogirl.com/winit or page 130 for details.



Remember... Even if you still aren't sure what job is right for you, the most important thing is to spend time doing activities you're passionate about. If you love what you do, you'll do it better than anyone. And *that*, CosmoGIRL!, is what will make you a success!

WIN IT!/ STILL LIFE: CHRIS BARTLETT.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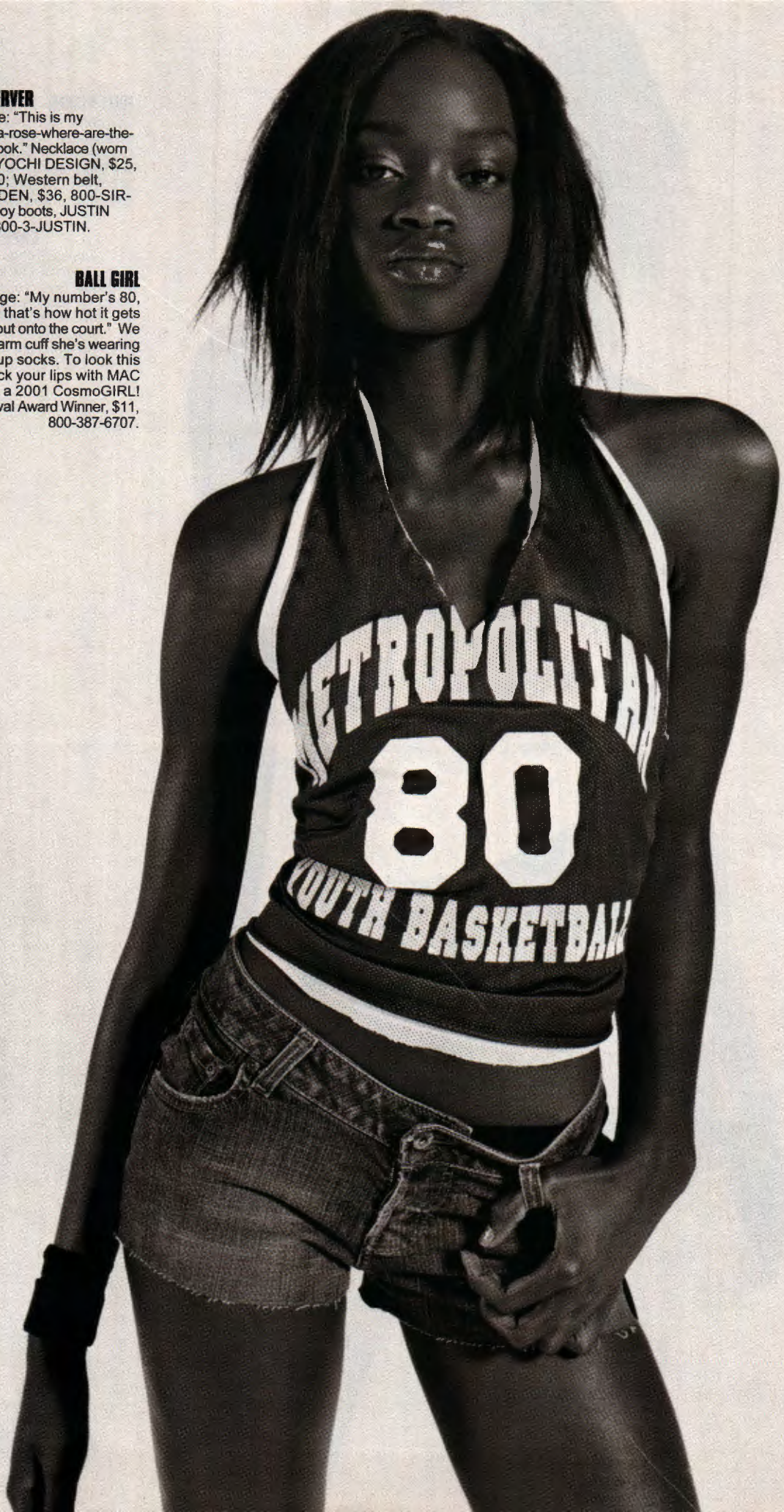
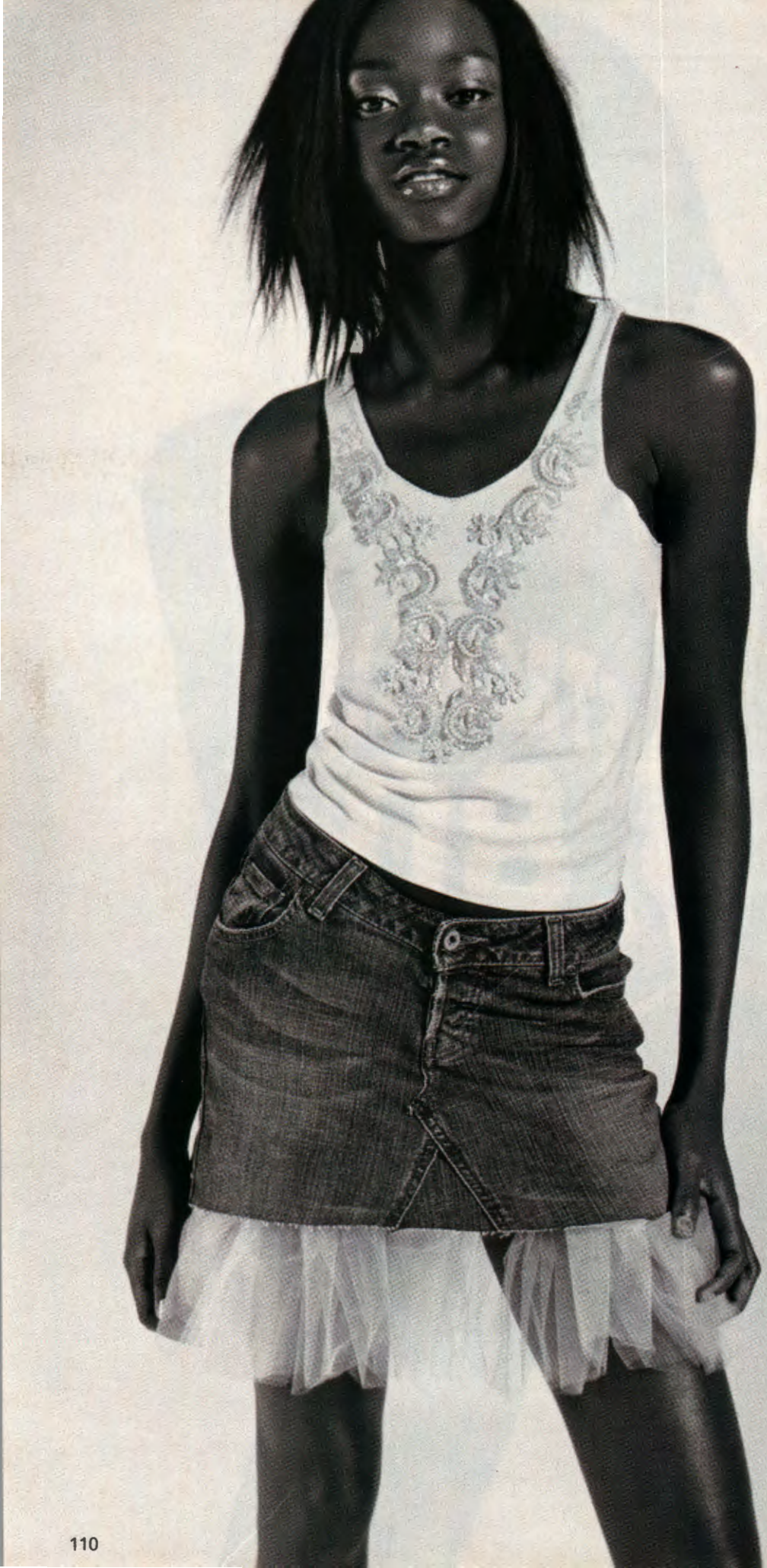
CASUAL OBSERVER
Opposite page: "This is my Oh-how-nice-a-rose-where-are-the-other-eleven look." Necklace (worn as bracelet), YOCHI DESIGN, $25, 888-666-6420; Western belt, STEVE MADDEN, $36, 800-SIR-MADD; Cowboy boots, JUSTIN Boots, $145, 800-3-JUSTIN.

BALL GIRL
This page: "My number's 80, because that's how hot it gets when I step out onto the court." We made the arm cuff she's wearing out of cut-up socks. To look this kissable, slick your lips with MAC Lipglass, a 2001 CosmoGIRL! Kiss of Approval Award Winner, $11, 800-387-6707.





FRILL SEEKER
This page: "Yes, I think I'd like to accessorize with a poodle today." Get smooth skin with Tommy's key lime cream pie body hydrator, $18, 877-TOMMY-4YOU. (P.S. This stuff smells de-*lish*.)

CAPTAIN SCRUNCH
Opposite page: "The newest Britney dance: The invisible horse gallop. No—really!" Rhinestone cuff, Fantasia Accessories, $10, 800-624-4826; Bracelet, MTV Accessories, $12, info@buyriteinc.com; Boots, STEVE MADDEN, $99, 800-SIR-MADD.

Fashion Director: Jacqueline Azria-Palombo
Hair: Roberto DiCuia for Trafik
Makeup: Victoria Jacknow

#thenewclassics #thenewclassics #thenewclassics #thenewclassics

I'm pretty sure I lost my contact lens in this area....

There's no one better to hang out with than your own precious self.

By Véronique Vienne

Remember when you were 5, 6, or 7 years old? Playing quietly in your room, giving your favorite Barbie a haircut? The house was silent, except perhaps for the dishwasher in its rinse cycle or the sprinkler watering the front lawn. And if anyone came into your room and asked what you were doing, you'd absentmindedly answer, "Nothing." Remember how happy you were back then when no one was around to bug you? You felt comfortable in your own head, in the privacy of your bedroom. You were your very own best friend.

You *can* recapture that blissful sense of serenity and take advantage of moments of solitude when there's no one around to ask what you're doing. And you don't have to justify yourself.

Declare yourself a SBD–free zone. (SBD stands for Should Be Doing.) Like "I should be reorganizing my closet," or "I should be constantly studying for the SATs." Make a list of SBD things... and throw it away. Now you're officially free to do all sorts of things that you wouldn't do if anybody else was there.

And you don't even have to wait to be *left* alone. Just take off. Leave the world of "what" and "why" and enjoy the freedom! No expectations. No obligations. No one there to question "Why are you doing that?" You're not *by* yourself, you are *with* yourself, free to rediscover the happy and resourceful girl who is the "real" you. Here's how to do it.

defy convention

Pick up a book everyone's been talking about. Start by reading the last chapter. Why *not?* You're free to flip through a book any way you want. There's no law against reading the end first. It's like eating your dessert before the main course. Now imagine what happened before that point. No holds barred. Surprise yourself—you're smart. Then you can go back and read a section in the middle. Or just read the even-numbered chapters. The point is to show yourself that you don't always have to go from point A to point B. Hopping around can be so much more fun.

explore possibilities

Take a book—any book—to a park bench. But don't read it. Imagine you're a trend spotter for CosmoGIRL! Hide behind the book and take notes. See what the most interesting trends are. Who's wearing hip-huggers? Give special prizes to people who make you look twice. "Couple with most interesting groceries." "Coolest way to open a car door." When you're with other people, you tend to focus on each other and miss the random stuff that's always swirling around you. Watching people can be like watching possibilities wander by. (And there's *always* the possibility you'll spot a really fine guy. In which case, you have permission to stop spying and flirt like mad!)

appreciate friends

Make a mix tape of all your favorite songs for your best friend. Then package it with a note listing all the things you've learned from her: to overcome your fear of spiders, to spell Yves Saint Laurent, to tell the truth, to appreciate Keith Haring paintings, to choose a bikini, to cure hiccups, to make waffles, to pluck your eyebrows. Whatever. The longer the list, the better. You'll be amazed how many things you've learned from her. Funny how we need to get some distance from friends to really appreciate them. With them, sometimes we get so competitive. But *away* from them we remember all their best qualities—and sometimes we even find their annoying habits sort of endearing.

teach yourself

Don't even think of baking instant chocolate chip cookies. You know better. Instead, take advantage of the situation and learn to cook something fabulous, like French onion soup. Find an old dog-eared copy of *Joy of Cooking* (practically every household has one) and turn to the recipe. As a side bonus, a sturdy onion soup is the best way into a guy's heart.

be inspired

Rent a really great classic movie, one you haven't seen before, like *Darling* with Julie Christie, or *Double Indemnity* with Barbara Stanwyck. Watch it without the sound to concentrate on the leading lady's style and poise. Note the way she walks, sits, smiles, drinks. P.S. This femme fatale stuff is almost as effective as French onion soup.

aim high

Write a letter to your thirty-something self. Tell her how you admire her accomplishments. Be specific...compliment her fabulous looks. Remind her how she'll make the world a better place. This brilliant document goes in your time capsule with your report cards and this issue of CosmoGIRL! Mail it to yourself, and promise you won't open it until 2016.

"alone" doesn't equal "loser"

See how easy it is not to be bored? Being alone gives you a chance to spend time with the most wonderful person in your life—the one friend you'll always have, no matter what. Find out how lucky you are to be able to count on yourself—yes, you, the girl who's left the world of "why."

Véronique Vienne is the author of *The Art of Doing Nothing: Simple Ways to Make Time for Yourself* (Random House).

ILLUSTRATION BY DEANNE CHEUK

Friendship crimes

Hum the *Jaws* theme song as you read this: If your friend seems distant lately, or just isn't calling, could it be because of something you've done? Relax! We know just how to fix it. By Lauren Smith

The Crime: *Talking behind her back*

Your friend kissed Hot Mike; Hot Mike has a *girlfriend*. You *can't* keep it in, so you tell some friends, who tell...well, you know.
ARE YOU GUILTY? After talking about your best friend, do you get that "I hope she doesn't find out" feeling? Yes? Guilty.
DR. CG! SAYS Gossiping feels delicious at first. People surround you, and it's a power trip. But to your friend? Yeah. Heinous. You'd *never* do this on purpose, but in a way, you're trying to buy people's attention, and your currency is your friend's secret. But gossip doesn't equal friendship. P.S. Upset with something a friend did? Talk to *her* about it—no one else.
REDEEM YOURSELF Confess—whether she's already heard or *not*. Ask how you can regain her trust. If she's too angry to talk, say that you'll be there when she's ready. Then give her space—only time will help her forgive. Don't *avoid* her, but don't hound her either. And no matter what, do *not* analyze the situation with other friends. Talk to your mom or journal instead.

The Crime: *Always being all "Me, me, me!"*

On the phone, you talk for 53 minutes about *your* issues—the fight with Mom, the bio quiz, that *thing* your ex said, and so on.
ARE YOU GUILTY? If your friend says, "Uh-huh, uh-huh..." and never mentions *her* life, you're hogging the conversation.
DR. CG! SAYS Friendship is a two-way street—your friend wants you to support *her*, too. Of *course* you care, but if you don't give her equal shrink time, she won't feel it. Got lots of issues one week? Spread them out, one per friend. And keep a diary—go back to see what *felt* huge at the time but actually worked out fine in the end. It'll give you *perspective*.
REDEEM YOURSELF One trick: Time yourself. Talked about *you* for 10 minutes? Now give *her* 10. And if sometimes you *do* need her undivided attention, thank her for listening—it will really make her feel appreciated. Then ask about her crush or the test she took. And *really* listen. Step into her shoes and imagine how it felt when that guy stood her up—you'll *relate*.

The Crime: *Cutting her down*

After your friend's audition for *West Side Story*, she asks everyone how she did. You joke: "Great, you only cracked *twice*."
ARE YOU GUILTY? Sometimes when you're joking around with her, does your friend get offended? If yes, you're guilty.
DR. CG! SAYS Even if you mean them to come off in a *funny* way, your jokes actually make your friend feel as loved as a mushy brown banana. She's the one person you *don't* have to impress with your wit. You know her soft spots, and by joking around about them, you're being insensitive. Maybe *you* think it's funny, but *she* finds it mean.
REDEEM YOURSELF Next time you catch yourself doing it, apologize—fast. Then prove you're sorry by breaking the habit. Say *nice* things about her around other people, and watch the sarcasm—it can be *cutting*. Before you say something "funny," stop (for a millisecond) and ask yourself if she'll laugh too. Yes? Go for it. Not sure? Bite your tongue (literally!).

The Crime: *Putting a guy over your friendship*

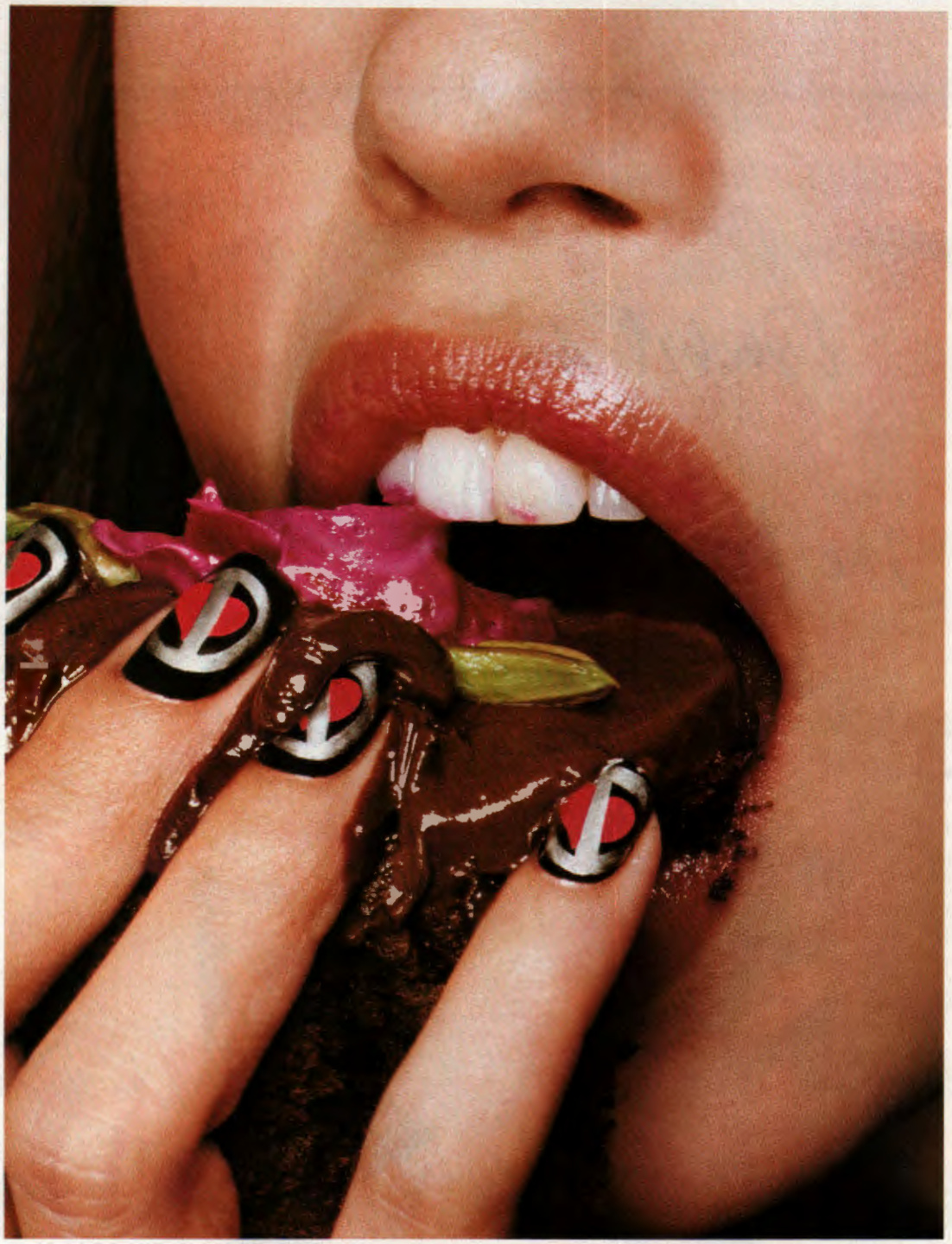
You're about to have a girls' night with your friend, when your crush stops by (yes!). So you cancel—she'll understand, right?
ARE YOU GUILTY? Have you stood her up more than once? Guilty. Has she *confronted* you? Beyond guilty.
DR. CG! SAYS Spending blissful kissy-time with a guy is not a crime. The *problem* is when your friend feels like leftovers. She wants to know that you adore her and need her advice, phone time, and emergency Kit Kat runs as much as always. Yeah, it's hard to say no to a guy you've wanted forever, but he *likes* that you have friends. And it's those friends who will be there whether you break up *or* get married.
REDEEM YOURSELF Spend quality time with her. Don't just squeeze her in—actually plan girl dates. (Meet for breakfast on Mondays to catch up!) Confide in her about him so she knows her opinion matters, but don't *gush*. And when she *needs* you, bag plans with him—if he's worth it, he'll understand.

the bottom line... Of *course* you love your best friend (you've proved it just by reading this!). Our point is just that we'd hate to see you lose a friend over something you'd change in a *second* if you knew it was hurting her. If you can get through this how-to-be-a-great-friend stuff now, you'll be friends till you're old enough for dentures—and then you'll buy Polident...*together*.

PROP STYLIST: RACHAEL HAAS; IMAGE INSIDE BAG: VALERIE PHILLIPS; EXPERTS: LILLIAN GLASS, PH.D., AUTHOR OF *ATTRACTING TERRIFIC PEOPLE: HOW TO FIND—AND KEEP—THE PEOPLE WHO BRING YOUR LIFE JOY*; ST. MARTIN'S PRESS; AND ROBYN FREEDMAN SPIZMAN, AUTHOR OF *WHEN WORDS MATTER MOST: THOUGHTFUL WORDS AND DEEDS*, CROWN.

It's in the bag: Good thing these girls got doubles. They'll want to *frame* this pic by the time they're done reading this.

GIVE 'EM THE FINGER



Whether you slave over love notes or wear black in protest, we've got a Valentine's nail look you'll love.
By Stephanie Huszar Photographs by Michael Wirth

bite me *Think Valentine's Day is way over-hyped? Then let your fingers do your talking....*

what you need: Black nail polish (try **L'Oréal Jet Set in Black Box,** $5, at drugstores); a silver paint pen (at craft stores); small heart stickers (at craft stores); and base coat. **what to do:** (1) File your nails into a square shape. (2) Apply base coat, followed by two thin coats of black polish. Now let your nails dry for at least 45 minutes. (3) Place a small red heart sticker in the middle of each nail. (4) Take the silver paint pen and carefully draw a circle around each heart (unless you're ambidextrous, get a friend to help you). Now go back and draw a diagonal line through each circle to finish your "no" sign.

CUFF BY RAMPAGE JEWELRY.

fan nail *To tell the world "I love [insert sexy love bug's name here]," put his face on your tips.*

what you need: A fingernail-size shot (get it from CG!) of your hottie's head (we like Heath Ledger); white sticky paper (try **Avery White Laser Labels,** $13, 800-462-8379); white polish (try **L'Oréal Shock Proof in French Tip White,** $5, at drugstores); base coat; nail glue; a toothpick; and a color copier. **what to do:** (1) Make 10 color copies of his pic, paste them on plain paper, then copy onto a sheet of sticky paper. Cut out the heads. (2) File your nails into a square shape. (3) Apply base coat, two coats of polish, and wait 30 minutes. (4) Peel and put the heads on your nails, then use a toothpick to dab glue under the edges so they don't pop up.

sweet art *"Need…chocolate…now!" Sound familiar? Then pay homage to your obsession!*

what you need: Metallic silver polish (try **Sally Hansen Chrome Nail Makeup in Pure Chrome,** $5, at drugstores); nail glue; a thin white grosgrain ribbon (at fabric stores); a blue felt-tip pen; base coat; and topcoat. **what to do:** (1) Snip off a one-inch-long piece of ribbon, hold it taut on a table with two fingers, and use the blue pen to write KISS ME. (2) File your nails into a square shape. (3) Paint on base coat, two coats of silver polish, and topcoat. Wait 20 minutes. (4) Squirt a drop of nail glue onto the end of the ribbon (on the same side as you've written KISS ME), and attach it to the underside of one nail (your thumb is a cute choice).

Beauty Director: Genevieve Monsma
Sittings Editor: Joanna Rodger
Hair: Joseph B. for L'Atelier
Makeup: Nick Barose for Art Mix
Manicurist: Jin Soon at Mark Edward

kitten klaws *Press these on (handle with care!) and act the part, you sexy mama.*

what you need: Fake nails (try **Nailene Incredible Nails,** $6, at drugstores); pink polish (try **Cover Girl Nailslicks in Pink Bliss,** $3, at drugstores); red stones (at craft stores); tape; nail glue; tweezers; and 10 straws. **what to do:** (1) File the tips into daggers. (2) Make tape rolls, stick them under the fake nails, and attach each to a straw (hold the straws like lollipops). (3) Apply two coats of polish. (4) Use the glue to write *S* on the right pointer nail, then pick up the stones with the tweezers and press them over the glue. Do an *E* on your middle tip (and so on) to spell SEXY. (Leave thumbs blank.) (5) Do a backward SEXY for your left hand. Now put on the tips.

CosmoGIRL! Grooves With...

P!NK

She is woman, hear her roar! Okay, so we just semi-quoted Helen Reddy. But hey, it fits! By Deborah Baer

That exclamation point in Pink's name is no typo. The 22-year-old rocker from Philly *embodies* it, first in *Can't Take Me Home,* and now in her latest album, *M!ssundaztood.* Like her childhood idol, Madonna ("I looked up to her like she was my mother. If I met her and she didn't like me, I'd be crushed!"), she's not afraid to say what's on her mind. Right now, it's, er, "No. 1"!

Pink: Sorry I'm late, I had to pee!

CG!: No problem. Peeing is good. But your first single is *great.* "Get the Party Started" is pretty upbeat for you.

Pink: Yup. I wanted to get the energy up. It's perfect timing, because of everything that's going on. We need an outlet.

CG!: Your brother is in the Air Force and your dad is a Vietnam vet. How has September 11 affected you?

Pink: Well, I never saw my dad scared before, ever. When it went down, I was on my way to New York, and I turned around and went back to my dad's in Philly. He had his M-16 rifle on his left and a .357 Magnum in front of him. He was sitting there on the edge of his seat with fear in his eyes. It totally freaked me out. And now my brother, who's a second lieutenant, is all gung ho—like father, like son. That scares me to death. I'm gonna kidnap him. I'm not letting him go. I have a very selfish outlook on that. I'm not proud of it.

CG!: Have your priorities changed?

Pink: Now, more than ever, I appreciate my relationships. The day the New York thing happened, I got, like, 58,000 two-ways—everyone from Snoop Dogg to my mom. And I felt very loved. I don't want to say it wrong, but I think something like this was sort of a blessing in disguise, so that our generation can appreciate our freedom. You know, we have the opportunities of a lifetime here, and we just take advantage of it. I've always been a fighter. Now everyone else can stand up and be a fighter too.

CG!: What's the biggest "missundaztanding" about you?

Pink: That I'm angry and that I'm a man-hater. I'm not angry, I just like to express myself. The truth hurts, people. Especially guys, if they feel like a woman is attacking them, all the sudden she's a femme fatale. Women have a struggle. There are men in charge that don't appreciate how we got here. And that's the stuff I'm trying to fight. I'm just trying to break down doors.

CG!: You *literally* broke down doors for a record deal!

Pink: I would bust into L.A. Reid's office, stand on his desk and sing. I'd ask everyone, "What's *your* job? What do *you* do?" I got on their nerves. But whether they love you or hate you, as long as they're thinking about you, that's a good sign.

CG!: Can we go back to the femme fatale thing for a second? Is it true you made out with Christina Aguilera at your birthday party a few months ago?

Pink: Yeah, but it was so misconstrued! My birthday party was a ball! The invitations said check your ego at the door. I had all these old school games and a drag show—they danced to Destiny's Child's "Bootylicious." Everybody was there—Lil' Kim, Blu Cantrell, Christina. So, it's like 3:30 a.m., and we're all playing spin-the-bottle. I landed on Christina! I put my hand over her mouth, like you do in summer camp, and I kissed my hand. The next day [in the press] we're bisexual lovers. We thought that was pretty hilarious.

CG!: Thanks for setting the record straight [pun intended]! So what kind of *guys* do you like?

Pink: I like people who are not afraid and just want to change the world. You know, I'm not picky. No big expectations. You just have to be Joan of Arc—but a guy [laughs]!

CG!: Do you think guys are scared of you?

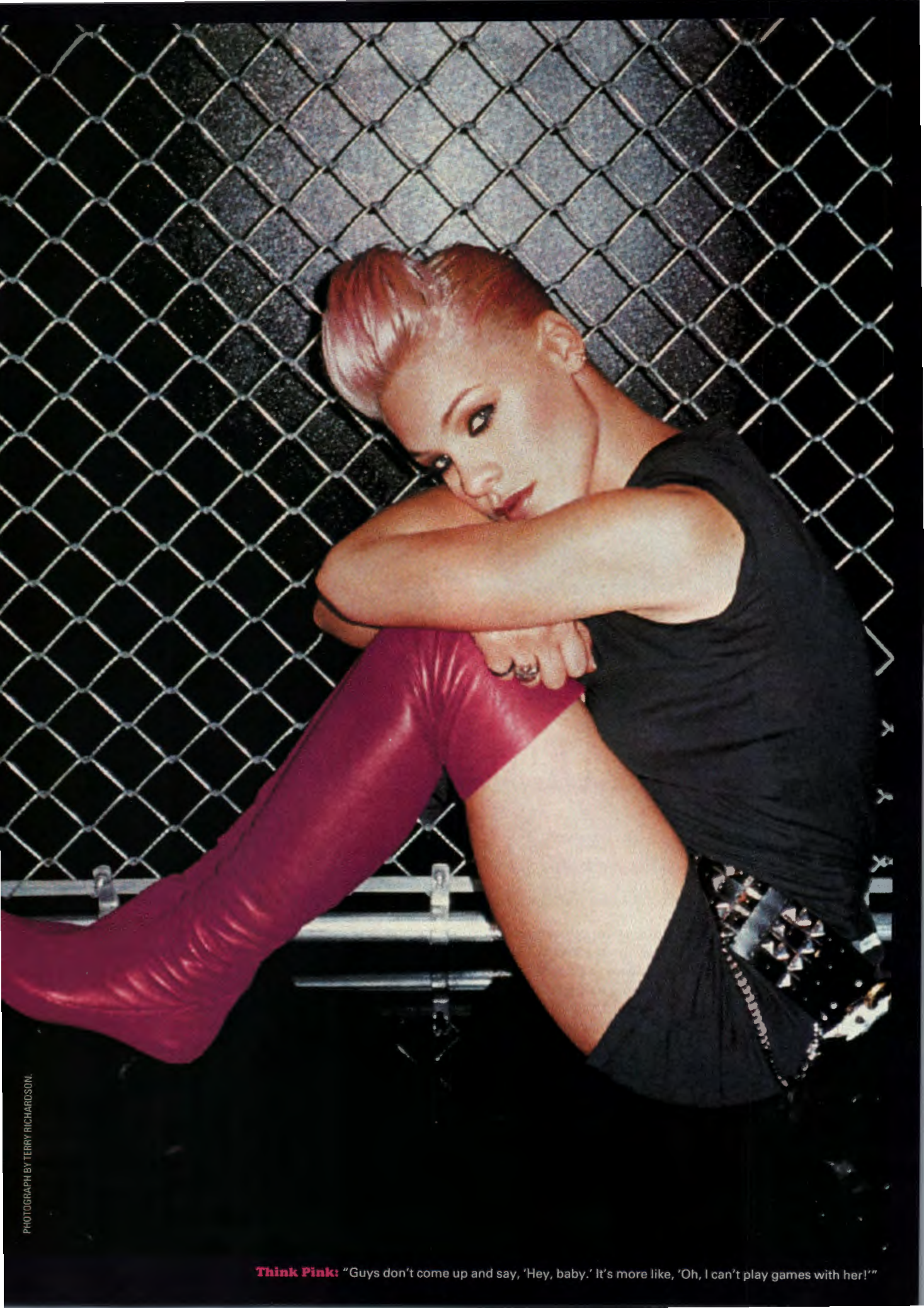
Pink: A little bit, but I think scaring them helps, because it cuts out half the B.S. They don't try to play me like I'm dumb. Another song on my album, "Respect," is my girl anthem. Like, don't give it up on the first date or even the second, or third. You gotta make him *work* for it.

CG!: Do *you* live by those rules?

Pink: Absolutely!

CG!: Are you a *Rules* girl?

Pink: I am a *respect* girl. A guy will only respect you as much as you respect yourself. And I've proven that over and over again. If you don't give away the goods, they're gonna want them even more.



PHOTOGRAPH BY TERRY RICHARDSON.

Think Pink: "Guys don't come up and say, 'Hey, baby.' It's more like, 'Oh, I can't play games with her!'"

"My dad was a hero"

Firefighter Ray Meisenheimer rushed into the World Trade Center to save lives. His daughter, CG! reader Lauren, is still waiting for him to come home. As told to Sabrina Solin Weill

On September 11, we got an announcement in second period that a plane flew into the World Trade Center. A guidance counselor came in, saying, "If you have family in the Trade Center, come to the library." I thought, Okay, I'm sure people got hurt, but why are they making such a big *deal* out of it? In seventh period, I heard about the second plane. Then they called me into the library.

My mom was there, hysterical, saying she hadn't heard from Dad and I was like, of *course* not—if he's there helping people, he's not going to be calling. We went to pick up my sister, Kaitlynn, who's 12, and I told my mom not to tell her anything—that would just get her started.

waiting, waiting, waiting

At home, my mom kept calling the fire department, asking, "Was Rescue 3 there?" That's my dad's company—they're based in the Bronx. She was also calling my dad's cell phone, and the wives of other firefighters were calling us—the phone was ringing off the hook. I was watching TV, but after they played the planes going into the buildings for the twelfth time, I switched stations. I really didn't need to see that again. I thought, This is serious, we are under attack. I didn't want a bomb dropping on our house.

When it became night, we got a call that other firefighters were going in to relieve my dad's group. But we were like, Maybe he'll stay longer to help out. He was scheduled to work until Wednesday, so he wouldn't have come home that night anyway. At that point we had tons of family over and it was just *loud*. At 9 p.m., family members called from out of state to say, "Uncle Ray's fine, Ray's fine, we saw him on TV walking through the rubble with his helmet down." But we couldn't get the station that was showing that. We were just thinking, If he's okay, why hasn't he *called?* Finally, around 1 a.m., the fire department called and my

PHOTOGRAPH BY JENNIFER LIVINGSTON

Rescue Workers Rush In, And Many Do Not Return

By JANE FRITSCH

Lauren's family: Kaitlynn, Ray, Lauren, and Joanne Meisenheimer on September 8 (*left*). Ray Meisenheimer at work (*above*).

mom started screaming: "They were in the building, they were in the building...."

keeping the faith

The person they saw on TV couldn't have been my dad. We heard that Rescue 3 was the second fire department on the scene. They were in the stairwell going to where the plane hit when the building collapsed. My dad was probably charging up the stairs, telling people to get out.

About two weeks later, they found my dad's fire truck. In it was his cell phone, his wallet, his 20-year rescue ring, and his mask. I said to my mom, "Daddy's not coming home, is he?" She just said, "We have to keep the hope and the faith."

It's hard because everything is just the way he left it—his sneakers, his clothes in the bathroom, his towel. His name is still on the chalkboard at the firehouse. Since they haven't found him, I feel like there's still a little bit of hope left that they'll find him alive. I keep thinking it's all a bad dream. I had one dream about him. In it, me and my mom and sister knew he was dead but he was home. He took a shower and paid bills and we were like, How do we tell him he's not supposed to be here? How do we tell him that he's dead?

saying goodbye

Just after they found the truck, they found two of the men who were with my dad—they were not alive. When someone from Rescue 3 told my mom, they also said, "We're not going to find Ray alive." So we had a memorial service. There were over 700 firefighters and over 1,200 people there. When they find his body, we'll have a real funeral.

He always wore a necklace with his name and helmet number on it, and my mom asked my aunt, "Do you think we are going to get that back?" My aunt said, "If the whole building melted, his necklace probably did too." That got me thinking: If his necklace melted, what else went with it? I don't say this to my mom because I don't want to put that thought in her head. My mom says if we don't get anything back, we'll bury his mask and some ashes. But for all we know, those ashes could be some guy Mo who worked on the 58th floor. I can't sit there and talk and have it not be his ashes. That's bizarre. I need *something* of his. I don't even care if it's an arm or a hand, or whatever, it just has to be something of *his*.

When my sister and I cry, we're angry at God. God let other people get out—why didn't He let my dad get out? And my mother says, "It was not Ray's day to die. He can't save people in heaven." But this was bin Laden's fault. We didn't do anything to them and they killed all these innocent people. I personally feel we should wipe them off the face of the earth. My mom is upset about it, but she says that we can't resort to going as low down as they did.

angels among us

I can't just sit here and cry and think, Oh, he's not going to be here for my 15th birthday, or, Oh, he's not going to be able to teach me how to drive—I'm going to have to drive like a snail now, like my mom does. I'll cross those bridges when I come to them. I'm just trying to go on with my life and do all of the stuff my dad would want me to do.

Even though this is something that's hard to put out of your head, you just have to do it. I am taking his strength and putting it toward getting out my story and helping people. My dad will always be with us. When I am studying, he's helping me. When I am walking down the street, he is a half step behind me. Even though my dad isn't home, I still feel safe because I know he's watching over us with all of the other thousands of people who died. We have the best angels now making Earth a better place, and they aren't going to let anything bad happen to us. You just need to think about all of the good things they are doing up there.

I take after my dad in a lot of ways—his personality, his looks, his way of thinking. He taught me so many things. But I don't want to be a firefighter—I want to work with kids who have cancer, because I've been through that. When I was 3, I had a cancerous tumor removed from my brain. It was scary for my dad, and he said, "I can save people from fires every day, but I can't save my own daughter." It's just weird that I got a miracle and he didn't.

feel stressed?

In unpredictable times like these, it's normal to feel nervous about the future. To help you cope: **Volunteer.** Even if it's not for a cause related to 9/11, it reminds you that you can make a positive impact (go to **pointsoflight.org**). **Make a collage.** Cut out news clippings, magazine photos, whatever speaks to you—or scares you. This lets you sort through your feelings (instead of pushing them away). **Get help.** If you can't focus, have trouble sleeping, or feel anxious, talk to an adult you trust, or get referred to a counselor at **800-999-9999.**

FEEL STRESSED? / EXPERTS: ERIC HOLLANDER, M.D., MT. SINAI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE; ROBERT SCHACHTER, PH.D., IN PRIVATE PRACTICE IN NEW YORK CITY.

CG! LINK We want to know what you think of the *big* issues in life. Fill us in at cosmogirl.com/issues.

football

Get ready for a CG! crash course—just in time for the Super Bowl! By Deborah Baer

Sure, everyone loves those Super Bowl commercials. But that doesn't explain why guys sit in front of the TV for hours every Sunday in the fall, unshowered, hats on backward, gasping, cheering, and high-fiving each other! They love football because the sport represents what every man wants to be—tough (those bone-crunching hits), smart (memorizing those fat, complicated playbooks), and a winner (that coveted Super Bowl ring). Now, some of you know zilch about football, and some of you are the star quarterback on your school's all-girl squad. No matter *what* your level of experience, consider these two pages as the entrée to a whole new world of girl bonding: Super Bowl buddies! And besides, why the heck should *guys* be the only ones getting that feeling of sheer *bliss* on Sunday afternoons? P.S. Keep this in front of you while you watch a game. It'll totally help!

positions

Every football team has three units of players—the offense, the defense, and special teams. Each unit puts 11 players on the field when it's their turn to go into the game. Here are their main jobs:

OFFENSE > These guys move the ball toward the opposite team's end zone to score points. The offense includes the quarterback (QB), offensive linemen, running backs, and wide receivers. The offense gets four plays (a.k.a. downs) to either score a touchdown (a.k.a. TD) or advance the ball (by running with it or passing it) 10 yards or more (then you get four more downs to try again).

DEFENSE > They keep the other team from scoring by blocking and tackling the guy with the ball. These players include defensive linemen, linebackers, cornerbacks, and safeties. They can also get possession of the ball from the offense by causing them to fumble (drop it) or by catching a pass intended for an offensive player (interception).

SPECIAL TEAMS > The guys in this unit go in on transitional plays—in other words, when the ball is about to change from offense to defense, or on field goal attempts. The players include wideouts and kick returners.

PLAY-AHS

These guys are superstars. Watch them play any chance you get:

MARSHALL FAULK #28

ST. LOUIS RAMS > Running back

Superstar stats: Faulk is, hands down, the best player in the game right now. Last year he rushed (ran with the ball) for 1,359 yards and was the NFL MVP.

PEYTON MANNING #18

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS > Quarterback

Superstar stats: He throws the ball like a *bullet!* In his rookie season, he set NFL records for completions, yards, and touchdowns.

RANDY MOSS #84

MINNESOTA VIKINGS > Wide receiver

Superstar stats: This guy has hands like flypaper. He catches everything—but with such grace, he's like a gymnast. Last year, he was named the Pro Bowl MVP.

penalties

If an offensive player breaks a rule, the referee punishes the team by moving them farther away from the end zone. If the defense screws up, the offense is given yards to get them closer to a TD. Here are a few:

OFF SIDES (5 YARDS) > A player moves across the line of scrimmage (the yard line the ball is placed on) before the ball is hiked. When the offense does it, it's called a *false start,* and when the defense does it, it's called *encroachment.*

ROUGHING THE PASSER (15 YARDS) > Once the QB has passed or handed off the ball, he cannot be hit (hey, you gotta protect those pretty faces!).

FACE MASK (15 YARDS) > If a player intentionally grabs or twists someone's mask and keeps his hand on it, that could break somebody's neck. If it happens by accident, it's only five yards.

CLIPPING (10 YARDS FROM SPOT OF THE CLIP) > If you're on offense, you can't block another player from behind; you know, like shove him in the back. It's like the equivalent of a sucker punch. Doh!

EXPERT: GIL BRANDT, CONTRIBUTOR TO NFL.COM AND *NFL INSIDER* MAGAZINE

scoring

On the field–not in love! Focus! How to get points:

TOUCHDOWN (6 POINTS) > Any time an offensive player gets in the end zone, either by running in with the football or catching a pass within its boundaries, that's a touchdown. If a defensive player recovers a fumble (as long as he doesn't get tackled), or gets an interception and runs it back to the other team's end zone, well, that's a touchdown too. Happy, happy, joy, joy!

POINT AFTER (1 POINT) > After a touchdown, the team that just scored gets a chance to kick the ball through the goalposts from 20 yards away. Why? Who the heck *knows?* Some guy made it up a long time ago! Just go with it.

TWO POINT CONVERSION (2 POINTS) > Because the point after is a little *der* (it's very rarely missed), the NFL borrowed a college football rule (college rules are a bit different) a few years ago to liven up the game a little. After a touchdown, as an alternative to the point after kick, the offense can line up like it's a regular play from the five-yard line. Then, like a regular play, the offense tries to pass the ball or run it into the end zone. If it works, the team gets two points instead of one.

FIELD GOAL (3 POINTS) > Sometimes on fourth down, teams try to kick the ball through the goalposts if they are within about 35 yards of the end zone. If they make it, three points. The risk? If they miss, the other team takes over possession of the ball from the spot of the missed kick, which could give the other team good field position.

SAFETY (2 POINTS) > If any offensive player is tackled with the ball in their own end zone, it's two points for the other team. How would this happen? Sometimes the offense finds themselves on their own, like, one-yard line. A major problem with this (besides the obvious fact that they have to go 99 yards for a touchdown) is that the ball is hiked to the QB while he's standing in the end zone. Scary place to be!

PARTY CONVERSATION

Drop these factoids this Super Bowl Sunday over the onion dip:

"IT'S SUCH A SHAME THAT DAN MARINO NEVER WON A RING."

The recently retired Miami Dolphins' QB never led his team to a Super Bowl championship like other legendary QBs such as Joe Montana and John Elway.

"THIS IS THE NINTH SUPER BOWL IN NEW ORLEANS!"

Then, after they pick their jaws up off the floor, tell them no other city has ever hosted more Super Bowls (because it's a fun town with great food, great live music, and a domed stadium to keep out the bad winter weather). Go on, tell them!

"IN 1985, THERE WERE FEWER THAN 10 PLAYERS IN THE NFL THAT WEIGHED OVER 300 POUNDS."

In 2001, there were close to 300! Where are they *growing* these boys?!?

the adventures and misadventures of

CG! IN HEART BURN!
IT'S SO ROMANTIC THAT ALL OF OUR DATES ARE GOING TO SURPRISE US FOR VALENTINE'S DAY!
I HOPE JAKE TAKES ME TO "CHEZ WOOP DE DEUX!"
FERMEZ LA PORTE! J'AIME MES ORTEILS.
HE LIKES HIS TOES? WHA???
SIGH!
SYDNEY, YOU'RE SO DAYTIME EMMY AWARD-WINNING ACTRESS SUSAN LUCCI!
THANKS! YOU LOOK PRETTY BJÖRK YOURSELF!
MAN, THESE DATES HAD BETTER BE PHENOMENAL CONSIDERING THE RISK WE'RE TAKING!
EEP! WE CAN'T REALLY AFFORD ALL THIS STUFF!
OFFEND! HANDBAG– $279?
PRA-DUH STRAPLESS– $1,000?
MENUDO BLAHSAYS– $525?
RETURNING ALL OF IT TOMORROW? PRICELESS!
LATER THAT EVENING...
HOW DID YOU GET TRL TICKETS?
MY DAD'S BOSS'S DENTIST'S NEPHEW IS GIDEON YAGO'S DOG WALKER!
DOES MY BUTT LOOK FAT IN THESE PANTS?
I CARSON
WOOOOOOO!
I WANT CARSON DALY!
TRL RULES
THESE GUYS FLEW IN ALL THE WAY FROM TIBET TO BE WITH US TODAY! GIVE IT UP FOR *M PORT!
SOON AFTER, THE FANS FREAK OUT...
BLAINE'S SOCKS WILL RAKE IT IN ON EBAY!
I'VE GOT DIBS ON J.R.'S SHOELACES! I PROMISED MPORT.COM!

CosmoGIRL!

Illustrations and Script by **Holly G**

M-MY G-GIRAFFE!
YEEE-HAA!
MEANWHILE...
WHO THINKS THEY CAN TAKE ON THE ROCK? OR ARE YOU ALL SISSIES?
LOOK WHAT THE ROCK IS COOKIN'!
ROCK
CRACK
I'M... NOT... TOUGH... ENOUGH!
SAME TIME THAT EVENING...
...MENTAL WOUNDS STILL SCREAMING, DRIVING ME INSANE...
OZZY ROCKS
MY BUNNY PURSE!
NO!
AT A NEARBY RESTAURANT...
EMBRASSE-MOI!
OH, JAKE, THIS IS SO ROMANTIC!
RRIPPP!
AND SO...
I COUNTED. IT'S GOING TO TAKE US 53 SATURDAYS TO PAY OFF THOSE CLOTHES!
WELL, AT LEAST FOR NOW WE GET THE EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT, RIGHT?
DOES MY BUTT LOOK OKAY IN THIS?
TAKE IT! IT'S YOURS!
SALE
99% OFF EVERY-THING
EVERYTHING MUST GO!!!
Dales
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY FROM CG!

what's your sign?

The stars know what's in store for you. By Jeff Jawer

BIRTHDAY GIRL

AQUARIUS: Brandy

(February 11, 1979) You are a firm believer in friendship and cooperation. Yet you insist on being free to do things your own way, especially if you've got a smarter method for accomplishing a task. You're into open-minded people who aren't afraid to analyze themselves. And the guy you fall for has to have a life of his own, too, so you don't feel like you're being suffocated.

aquarius

(January 20–February 18)

You're even more independent than usual this month, and you feel like blowing off plans. But before you act impulsively and leave friends in the dust, be sure you have a good reason.

Best Days for Love: February 11 and 21

pisces

(February 19–March 20)

Right now you're focusing on creative stuff like redoing your room. During this solo time—around the 18th—you'll also hatch a plan for turning one of your lifelong dreams into reality.

Best Days for Love: February 4 and 23

aries

(March 21–April 19)

An insecure guy feels threatened by your newfound ability to make decisions. It's not your job to slow down just to make him feel safe, but you come up with a solution on the 23rd that will make *both* of you happy.

Best Days for Love: February 2 and 28

taurus

(April 20–May 20)

The rules at school and home are changing, so it's hard to know where you stand with people. Let go of some bad habits (like being a bit too possessive) and you'll adjust fine.

Best Days for Love: February 1 and 18

gemini

(May 21–June 20)

Working with a smart guy on a school project might lead to more than friendship. If you're already attached, tell your honey about the new guy by the 8th, and they'll both respect you for it.

Best Days for Love: February 6 and 25

cancer

(June 21–July 22)

A guy you'd like to get close to is letting his head, rather than his heart, rule his actions. Don't write him off, but just be his friend for now—you'll get to talk to him openly on the 23rd.

Best Days for Love: February 5 and 13

leo

(July 23–August 22)

Relationships are a whole new ball game—you may not want the same things or even like the same guys. On the 7th, somebody new will shake up your world in a very good way.

Best Days for Love: February 7 and 26

virgo

(August 23–September 22)

Surprises at school or at home force you to change how you deal with problems. And on the 13th, you'll discover that everything doesn't *have* to be perfect for you to be happy.

Best Days for Love: February 12 and 27

libra

(September 23–October 22)

Your house of play, creativity, and romance is lit up this month. Take some chances, Libra, and tell those who love you how you feel about them. And on the 10th, show the new people you meet who you really are.

Best Days for Love: February 10 and 22

scorpio

(October 23–November 22)

Though you appear calm, you can feel change brewing inside you. Channel your nervous energy into action on the 1st—try yoga, get a part-time job—so it won't erupt in a negative way.

Best Days for Love: February 14 and 20

sagittarius

(November 23–December 21)

You and a friend need to clear the air of some months-old issues. On the 9th, you'll have some quiet time together—seize the opportunity to discuss your feelings constructively.

Best Days for Love: February 3 and 15

capricorn

(December 22–January 19)

This month, you find yourself in situations where you just don't feel competent. Don't beat yourself up; no one is expecting you to get it right the first time. So keep trying, and have fun.

Best Days for Love: February 8 and 24

ILLUSTRATIONS: CHUCK GONZALES.

CG! LINK Get your *daily* horoscope at cosmogirl.com/astrologic.

what'shissign?

Check out what the stars have in store for him, too! By Jeff Jawer

aquarius
(January 20–February 18)
This freedom-loving guy is running hot and cold right now, but during a moment of sensitivity on the 23rd, Aqua Boy may express his feelings with unusual honesty. Brace yourself!
Best Days for Love: February 10 and 22

pisces
(February 19–March 20)
His romantic notions of the ideal girlfriend make it hard for him to see the real (great) girl right in front of him. Give this out-to-lunch guy a wake-up call on the 9th—some straight talk might bring him back down to earth.
Best Days for Love: February 5 and 14

aries
(March 21–April 19)
He's sticking close to his old friends right now because of some emotional upheaval he's going through. But on the 2nd, he's open to new challenges, especially ones in the love department.
Best Days for Love: February 3 and 16

taurus
(April 20–May 20)
On the 23rd, some friendly persuasion might put bossy Taurus into a warmer, more romantic mood. Just don't push the Bull too hard or he'll react to all of your suggestions with a stubborn "no."
Best Days for Love: February 9 and 19

gemini
(May 21–June 20)
It's not Gemini's style to stay stuck in the past, but he's having second thoughts about "what could have been" with an old girlfriend. On the 22nd, he'll finally be ready to move on.
Best Days for Love: February 2 and 26

cancer
(June 21–July 22)
Cancer's ready to take risks, and for him that means he'll be spending time with people he used to avoid. Be watching on the 5th—he'll surprise everyone with an unusually bold move.
Best Days for Love: February 8 and 15

leo
(July 23–August 22)
Leo's usually too busy making noise to hear anyone else. This month, though, he's liable to listen instead of talk—if someone's got something interesting to say. Cozy up to him on the 11th.
Best Days for Love: February 6 and 25

virgo
(August 23–September 22)
He's busy lately, maybe with something school-related. The way to his heart right now is through his brain—on the 10th, he'll notice the girl who has helpful information for him.
Best Days for Love: February 4 and 13

libra
(September 23–October 22)
He loves playing the game of love, but sometimes he can't tell if someone is important to him or if she's just his flavor of the week. Up for the challenge? The 11th is the day that girls he's never noticed before catch his eye.
Best Days for Love: February 11 and 21

scorpio
(October 23–November 22)
Scorp's imagination is running wild, and he's afraid that if he tells people his ideas, they'll think he's weird. Share *your* out-there thoughts on the 14th, and he might open up to you.
Best Days for Love: February 12 and 18

sagittarius
(November 23–December 21)
He's all about making his opinions public, and he has little patience for anyone who doesn't agree with him. On the 21st, he gets off his soapbox and he's bearable to be around again.
Best Days for Love: February 7 and 20

capricorn
(December 22–January 19)
Though he usually can't stand to look silly, this month Cap's willing to take some chances with his clothes or hair. On the 19th, he's on the lookout for a girl who can help bring out his wild side.
Best Days for Love: February 1 and 23

BIRTHDAY BOY

AQUARIUS: Ashton Kutcher (February 7, 1978) The Aquarius guy is so friendly to everyone that it's hard to know whether he really likes *you*. Just always remember that he wants to feel that you *like* him, but not that you *need* him. If you try to make him pledge his love for you, he may get scared and run in the other direction. True, he's slippery, but at least you know that with this guy, you'll never be bored!

sweepstakes rules

OFFICIAL RULES: No purchase necessary. A purchase or payment of any kind will not increase your chance of winning. Sweepstakes are open to girls between the ages of 11 and 29 who are residents of the United States, the District of Columbia, or Canada (except Quebec). If you are 13 years old or over, to enter, complete and submit the entry form on this Web site. (Entrants ages 11 or 12 may not enter online but may enter by sending a postcard only; no envelopes will be considered) with your name, age, address, phone number, clothing or shoe size if necessary, and the name of the *Win It!* to CosmoGIRL! Giveaway Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 1746, Sandusky, OH 44870. Mailed entries will have the same chance of winning as entries.) All entries must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT, February 4, 2002.

One entry per person per *Win It!* (Each *Win It!* is a separate drawing and must be entered separately. Multiple entries for a single *Win It!* will be disqualified.) Employees (and their immediate families) of The Hearst Corporation, Prize Suppliers ("Sponsors") and their subsidiaries and affiliates are not eligible. Winners (and a parent or guardian if winner is a minor) may be asked to submit an affidavit of eligibility/release. If they do not return the release to CosmoGIRL! within 10 business days, CosmoGIRL! reserves the right to pick a new winner. Sponsors not responsible for late, lost, mutilated, misdirected, illegible, incomplete, or postage due mail entries or computer system, phone line, hardware, software, or program malfunctions, or other errors, failures, or delays in computer transmissions or network connections that are human or technical in nature. Web entrants must have a valid e-mail address. Sponsors reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to cancel or suspend this sweepstakes should virus, bugs, or other causes beyond the control of the Sponsors corrupt the administration, security, or proper play of game. See privacy policy for details regarding the information collected in connection with this game. In the event of a dispute regarding the identity of the person submitting an electronic entry, the entry will be deemed to be submitted by the person in whose name the e-mail account is registered. Any attempt to deliberately damage any Web site or undermine the legitimate operation of the sweepstakes is a violation of criminal and civil laws, and Sponsors reserve the right to seek damages from any violator to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Winners will be chosen by random drawing and odds of winning are based on number of entries received in each *Win It!* Participants are eligible to win only one *Win It!* per issue. If a participant's name is drawn for more than one prize, the participant will receive the prize with the greatest retail value. Winners responsible for any taxes on prize. Canadian entrants drawn will be required to correctly answer a skill-testing question in order to be eligible to win. Winners agree to allow Sponsors the right to use their names and likenesses for publicity purposes without further compensation and agree to hold Sponsors harmless from any claims arising out of their participation in the *Win It!* or acceptance and use of the prize.Winners will be notified by mail on or about March 11, 2002. For a list of winners log on to cosmogirl.com/winit after March 11, 2002.

credits

Calendar (page 21) Still Lifes / Chris Bartlett: February 1, 9, 10, 14, 20, 23, 25; Luis Ernesto Santana: February 4; Kerry McGrath: February 6, 15, 16, 21. Groundhog: Stone; Kutcher: Tsuni/Imagedirect; Rowland: Tsuni/Imagedirect; Ricci: Anthony Harvey/Getty Images; Mt. Rushmore: Liaison; Ricci: Anthony Harvey/Getty Images; Barrymore: Art Streiber/Icon International; Franklin: Bettmann/Corbis.

Eye Candy (page 40) Fashion Director: Jacqueline Azria-Palombo; Prop Stylist: Erin McGarry; Grooming: Nikki Paton for Independent NY.

Makeup Bag (page 56) Celeb Trend / Expert: Joanna Schlip, L.A.–based Makeup Artist. CosmoGIRL! Recipe / Illustration: Mayumi Fujimoto/CWC-i; Source: *The Body Book: Recipes for Natural Beauty Care* by Anne Akers Johnson, Klutz Inc., 2001. Beauty Tip / Source: *Beauty: The New Basics* by Rona Berg, Workman Publishing, 2001.

Holy Hair (page 60) Left: Top by French Curve; Choker by Express. Middle: Earrings by Depeche Mode 5th Ave. Right: Top by Doki-Geki.

Holy Hair (page 61) Hairy Monsters / Expert: Mark Garrison of Mark Garrison Salon. Celeb Trend / Arie: Paul Fenton/Shooting Star. Shakira: Andrea Renault/Globe Photos; Keys: Albert Ortega/Galella. All still lifes by Kerry McGrath.

Ask the Expert (page 63) Eliza Petrescu, Waxing Director/Eyebrow Designer at Avon Salon & Spa, and Ramy Gafni, makeup artist and founder of Ramy Beauty Therapy (Emergency!).

What's Up Doc (page 64) Additional experts: Charles Wibbelsman, M.D., coauthor of *The Teenage Body Book* (Perigee); Lisa M. Masterson, M.D., specializes in adolescent health at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, L.A.

You Oughta Know (page 66) Are You Shy? / Illustration: Mayumi Fujimoto/CWC-i; Expert: Bernardo J. Carducci, Ph.D., Director of The Shyness Research Institute at Indiana University Southeast and author of "Are We Born Shy?", *The Psychology Place*, February, 2001. Didja Know? / Mary Carskadon, Ph.D., and Amy R. Wolfson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychology at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, coauthors of "Sleep Schedules and Daytime Functioning in Adolescents," *Child Development*, August 1998. Get a Room! / Jolie and Thornton: Doug Peters/All Action/Retna; Expert: Brenda J. Kirby, Ph.D. in Social Psychology, and Sharalyn Young, B.S., presented study findings at the American Psychological Society, June, 2001, in Toronto.

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DIY INSTRUCTIONS

Page 108: Deconstructed shirt (1) Cut the bottom off your T-shirt, just above the hem. (2) Cut the cuffs off the sleeves. (3) Fray the collar by snipping it however you like. **Deconstructed jeans** (1) Cut one of the back pockets off (but don't cut through the butt!). (2) Open the hems at the bottom of the legs with a seam-ripper (available at a fabric store). Unfold the extra fabric that's there to get a cool, frayed look (for even more frays, wash the jeans). **Page 109: Jersey-halter** (1) Get a white T-shirt and a tank top jersey from a sporting goods store. Lay your T-shirt flat and place the jersey flat on top of it, and pin around the edges to hold it in place. (2) Cut off the T-shirt's sleeves, and cut a V-neck through all the layers of the jersey and the T-shirt so they all line up. Pin the layers together around the new neckline, so they stay together. (3) Cut off the top half of the back of the shirt, being sure to leave some of the material at the shoulders to create the halter straps you'll tie around your neck. (4) Sew the jersey to the front layer of the shirt. Remove all pins. **Short-shorts** (1) Cut off your jeans really short (like about 1½" longer than the crotch). (2) Get a yard each of ½"-wide blue grosgrain ribbon and ⅛"-wide red grosgrain ribbon. (3) Cut the ribbons to fit the length of the sides of the shorts. Using fabric glue, attach the blue ribbon first, and then glue the red ribbon on top of it so it makes a red stripe down the middle of the blue. **Page 110: Appliquéd shirt** (1) Lay your T-shirt out flat and cut a deep scoop-neck in the front, and a shallower (smaller) scoop in the back. (2) Cut off the sleeves, making the straps as skinny as you like. (3) Take some white bead and sequin appliqués (from a fabric store) and stitch them onto the front of the tank following the shape of the scoop-neck and continuing down the front of the shirt. **Tulle skirt** (1) Cut off your jeans about 10" down from the top of the waistband. (2) Cut open the inseam, and lay the fabric flat. As you shape it into a skirt, one "leg" piece will slightly overlap the other right below the zipper (on the front) and below the butt (on the back). Sew these overlaps in place. Turn the skirt inside out. You'll have a triangle gap left in the front and another in the back. Cut 2 denim triangle pieces from the leftover leg fabric and sew these pieces in place to fill in the gaps. (3) Get 2 yards of pale pink tulle from a fabric store and cut 2 strips that are 64" long by 8" high. Lay one strip on top of the other. (4) Using clear thread (from the fabric store), loosely stitch the pieces together along one long side of the tulle, pulling the thread tight and scrunching the fabric into little pleats to make the tulle gather. Hold the tulle up next to the skirt to make sure you have enough to go all the way around the bottom. If there's too much, pull the gathers tighter. Loosen them if there's not enough. Once you have the perfect fit, knot the end of the thread to keep the gathers in place. (5) Sew the tulle to the inside of the skirt, about 2" up from the bottom edge of the skirt. **Page 111: Ruched-sleeve top** (1) Lay your T-shirt out flat. Cut off about 80 percent of one sleeve, leaving just a tiny cap sleeve. For the other sleeve, just cut off the bottom ¾" of fabric. (2) Cut off the collar so that you leave a wide boatneck. (3) Using white thread, loosely stitch from an inch above the underarm of the de-cuffed sleeve diagonally up to a close point on the neckline, pulling the thread as you go and scrunching the fabric together to gather it into little pleats. Make your last stitch go inside ➔

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DIY INSTRUCTIONS
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the shirt, and knot the thread several times to hold the pleats in place. (4) Pick up about 2 yards of thin silver chain at a craft store. Cut it into 5 or 6 pieces of varying lengths (normal scissors will work), and stitch the top ends onto the shirt right on top of the gathers.

Ruched jeans (1) Turn your jeans inside out. Cut off the hem at the bottom of both legs. Now cut two 12" lengths of leg from another pair of jeans (if you made the tulle skirt on the previous page, use the leftover legs). Turn these pieces inside out, and sew them to the bottom of the first pair of jeans to make the legs extra long. (2) Get 6 yards each of heavy-duty 1"-wide ribbon, and ¼"-wide ribbon from a fabric store. (The color won't show.) These ribbons will help you scrunch the legs so that they look "ruched." (3) Keep your (now extra long) jeans inside out, and look at the seams. You'll notice that there is an inseam and an outer seam on each leg. For each seam: Cut a piece of 1"-wide ribbon to fit all the way down it, and a piece of ¼"-wide ribbon that's a couple of inches longer. Lay the ¼" ribbon along the seam. Sew the top end to the jeans to hold it in place. Now lay the 1" ribbon directly on top of the ¼" ribbon. Sew all the way down both edges of the 1" ribbon, trapping the ¼" ribbon in a little tunnel in the middle. You'll have a little tail of ¼" ribbon hanging out. Repeat this process for the other 3 seams. (4) Now pull on the tails of all four ¼" ribbons so that your jeans start to scrunch up. Try them on so you get the right amount of scrunchiness and the length you like (we made ours *really* long!). Then sew the ¼" ribbon to the cuff, and snip off any excess.

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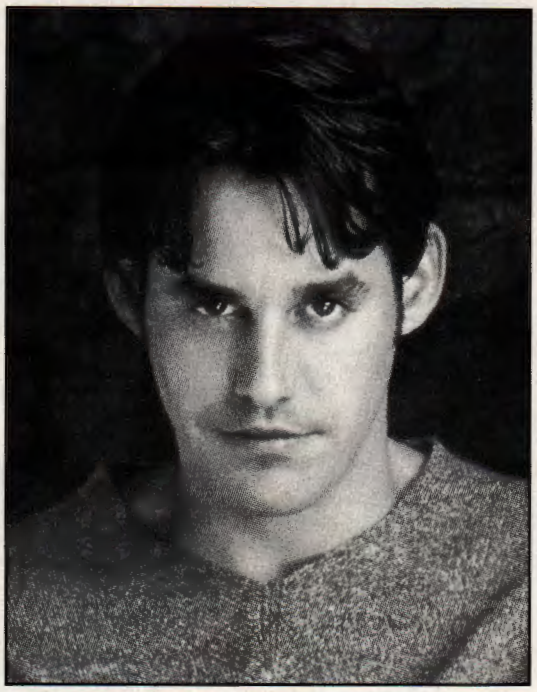

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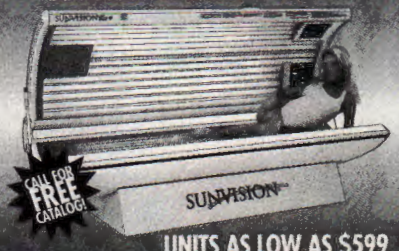

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